



LONDON BOROUGH OF ENFIELD

**AGENDA FOR THE COUNCIL MEETING
TO BE HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, 31ST JANUARY, 2018 AT 7.00 PM**

MEETINGS THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE SINCE THE LAST COUNCIL (22 November 2017)

Set out below is a list of meetings that have taken place since the last Council meeting. The contact names for the relevant officers are included.

Name of Meeting	Date	Officer	Contact Telephone
Overview and Scrutiny Committee	23 November 2017	Elaine Huckell	020 8379 3530
North Central London Sector Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee	24 November 2017	Andy Ellis	020 8379 4884
Director of Operational Services Regeneration and Environment Shortlisting Appointment Panel	28 November 2017	Jane Creer	020 8379 4093
Jubilee Ward Forum	28 November 2017	Claire Johnson	020 8379 4239
Licensing Committee	29 November 2017	Jane Creer	020 8379 4093
Licensing Sub Committee	29 November 2017	Jane Creer	020 8379 4093
Highlands Ward Forum	29 November 2017	Claire Johnson	020 8379 4239
Southgate Ward Forum	29 November 2017	Claire Johnson	020 8379 4239
Town Ward Forum	29 November 2017	Claire Johnson	020 8379 4239
Palmers Green Ward Forum	30 January 2017	Claire Johnson	020 8379 4239
Appointment Panel – Executive Director Regeneration and Environment	5 December 2017	Claire Johnson	020 8379 4239
Health and Wellbeing Board	5 December 2017	Jane Creer	020 8379 4093
Conservation Advisory Group	5 December 2017	Andy Higham	020 8379 3848
Deaf Community Forum	5 December 2017	Stacey Gilmour	020 8379 4187
Enfield Lock Ward Forum	5 December 2017	Claire Johnson	020 8379 4239
Councillor Conduct Committee	11 December 2017	Penelope Williams	020 8379 4098
Housing Board	13 December 2017	Elaine Huckell	020 8379 3530
Director of Operational Services Regeneration and Environment Interview Appointment Panel	12 December 2017	Jane Creer	020 8379 4093
Vulnerable Young People Task Group	12 December 2017	Tariq Soomauroo	020 8379 1872

Name of Meeting	Date	Officer	Contact Telephone
Schools Forum	13 December 2017	Sangeeta Brown	020 8379 3109
Lower Edmonton Ward Forum	13 December 2017	Claire Johnson	020 8379 4239
Haselbury Ward Forum	13 December 2017	Claire Johnson	020 8379 4239
Edmonton Green Ward Forum	13 December 2017	Claire Johnson	020 8379 4239
Upper Edmonton Ward Forum	13 December 2017	Claire Johnson	020 8379 4239
Transport Connectivity Scrutiny Workstream	14 December 2017	Susan O'Connell	020 8379 6151
Director of Public Health Interview Appointment Panel	18 December 2017	Jane Creer	020 8379 4093
Planning Committee	19 December 2017	Jane Creer	020 8379 4093
Cabinet	20 December 2017	Jacqui Hurst	020 8379 4096
Member and Democratic Services Group	4 January 2018	Claire Johnson	020 8379 4239
Loneliness and Social Isolation Scrutiny Workstream	8 January 2018	Penelope Williams	020 8379 4098
Conservation Advisory Group	9 January 2018	Andy Higham	020 8379 3848
Winchmore Hill Ward Forum	9 January 2018	Claire Johnson	020 8379 4239
LBE/EREC	10 January 2018	Elaine Huckell	020 8379 3530
Primary Exclusions Scrutiny Workstream	10 January 2018	Susan O'Connell	020 8379 6151
Southbury Ward Forum	11 January 2018	Claire Johnson	020 8379 4239
Audit and Risk Management Committee	11 January 2018	Metin Halil	020 8379 4091
Crime Scrutiny Panel	11 January 2018	Stacey Gilmour	020 8379 4187
Town Ward Forum	16 January 2018	Claire Johnson	020 8379 4239
Highlands Ward Forum	16 January 2018	Claire Johnson	020 8379 4239
Health Scrutiny Panel	16 January 2018	Elaine Huckell	020 8379 3530
Schools Forum	17 January 2018	Sangeeta Brown	020 8379 3109
Enfield Highway Ward Forum	17 January 2018	Claire Johnson	020 8379 4239
Safer Neighbourhood Board	18 January 2018	Susan O'Connell	020 8379 6151
Overview and Scrutiny Committee Budget Meeting	18 January 2018	Stacey Gilmour	020 8379 4187
Planning Committee	23 January 2018	Jane Creer	020 8379 4093

Name of Meeting	Date	Officer	Contact Telephone
Loneliness and Social Isolation Scrutiny Workstream	24 January 2018	Penelope Williams	020 8379 4098
Cabinet	24 January 2018	Jacqui Hurst	020 8379 4096
Bush Hill Park Ward Forum	25 January 2018	Claire Johnson	020 8379 4239
Conservation Advisory Group	30 January 2018	Andy Higham	020 8379 3848
Bowes Ward Forum	30 January 2018	Claire Johnson	020 8379 4239

**THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS OF THE
LONDON BOROUGH OF ENFIELD**

**Please
Reply to:** Penelope Williams

Phone: (020) 8379 4098

Textphone: (020) 8379 4419

E-mail: Penelope.Williams@enfield.gov.uk

My Ref: DST/PW

Date: 23 January 2018

Dear Councillor,

You are summoned to attend the meeting of the Council of the London Borough of Enfield to be held at the Civic Centre, Silver Street, Enfield on Wednesday, 31st January, 2018 at 7.00 pm for the purpose of transacting the business set out below.

Yours sincerely

Jeremy Chambers

Director Law & Governance

1. **ELECTION IF REQUIRED OF THE CHAIR/DEPUTY CHAIR OF THE MEETING**
2. **THE MAYOR'S CHAPLAIN TO GIVE A BLESSING**
3. **MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE ORDINARY BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL**
4. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 22 NOVEMBER 2017** (Pages 1 - 20)

To receive and agree the minutes of the meeting held on 22 November 2017.

5. **APOLOGIES**
6. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Members of the Council are invited to identify any disclosable pecuniary, other pecuniary or non pecuniary interests relating to items on the agenda.

7. OPPOSITION BUSINESS - HOUSING AND REGENERATION PROJECTS IN ENFIELD (Pages 21 - 26)

An issues paper prepared by the Opposition Group is attached for consideration of Council.

The Council rules relating to Opposition Business are also attached for information.

8. COUNCIL TAX AND COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME FOR 2018/19 AND BUSINESS RATE BASE 2018/19 (Pages 27 - 62)

To receive a report from the Executive Director of Finance, Resources & Customer Services reviewing and seeking approval to changes in the local Council Tax Support Scheme for 2018/19, which the Council is required to produce under section 13A(1)(a) and meeting 1A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

The report also recommends the 2018/19 council tax and business rate bases. (Report No.137)

(Key Decision – Reference Number: 4588)

The NNDR 1 DCLG Business Rate Base Return (Appendix E) has been marked as “To Follow”.

Please note that this report is to be considered by Cabinet on Wednesday 24 January 2018. The Cabinet decision will be reported to Council on the update sheet tabled at the meeting.

9. ENFIELD SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN'S BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17 (Pages 63 - 106)

To receive the Enfield Safeguarding Children's Board Annual Report for 2016/17. (Report No: 112)

Council is asked to note the progress being made to safeguard children and young people as set out in the report.

The report has also been noted by Cabinet (20 December 2017) and the Health and Wellbeing Board (5 December 2017).

10. MOTIONS

10.1 Motion in the name of Councillor Laban

“The Mayor of London is currently conducting the second round of consultation on his proposals to extend the Ultra-Low Emission Zone to the North and South Circulars. These proposals whilst well intentioned are not the solution that Enfield requires to improve air quality. Enfield Council agrees to seek alternative measures to improve air quality and that the

leaders of both political groups write jointly to the Mayor as part of the response to the consultation to express our concerns regarding what is proposed for our borough.”

10.2 Motion in the name of Councillor Taylor

“Enfield Council notes the collapse of Carillion and actions taken to date by the Government. A particular concern is the impact on schools as Enfield has some schools with Carillion as a provider.

Enfield will be seeking clarification from Government and the appointed receiver (PWC) on how it will act and what the Government support is planned for public sector contracts. We are committed to press for urgent commitment from the Government for additional funding to be released into the system for which the Council to support those schools affected by this terrible situation which unfolded through no fault of their own.”

10.3 Motion in the name of Councillor Lappage

“This Council agrees to encourage women of all cultures to exercise the right to vote, to register to vote as soon as possible and to come out and vote this May. This hard won right, whose centenary we celebrate this year, is one which women are encouraged to act on throughout their lives.”

10.4 Motion in the name of Councillor Achilleas Georgiou

“This Council welcomes the saving of £2.5m to the Council budget by the purchase of properties through Housing Gateway since it was established in 2014.

Given this is a net contribution, it is hard to see how any councillor could consider it anything other than good economics.”

10.5 Motion in the name of Councillor Sitkin

“Currently the Council has a policy on protecting community facilities in planning but this does not afford public houses the protection we would like to achieve.

We are entering a Local Plan process which should be completed by 2019, in tandem with the London Plan.

Council believes that including specific public house protection in the plan would be an objective Enfield should bring forward.
In advance of this, Council recognises that public houses are valued facilities for a vibrant community.”

10.6 Motion in the name of Councillor Rye

“Enfield Council needs to take urgent action to support Enfield Town as a

major shopping centre in the borough and will: undertake enforcement action on vacant shops with untidy frontages; seek funding to provide hanging baskets and Christmas lights; review the lengthy timelines for action set out in the Enfield Town Centre Draft Framework Master Plan to deliver positive outcomes sooner rather than later.”

10.7 Motion in the name of Councillor Laban

“Enfield Council is proud to follow the great British values of tolerance and respect. This month we will be commemorating Holocaust Memorial Day and as a sign of our commitment to those British values this chamber condemns any anti-Semitism.”

10.8 Motion in the name of Councillor Laban

“The Taxi-card service operated by London Councils funds subsidised taxi journeys for disabled and mobility impaired Londoners, allowing them to make journeys many would otherwise struggle to carry out on public transport. Users pay just a small amount of their fare, with the rest being paid for by the scheme. To show its compassion, Enfield Council agrees with the Chair of the London Councils, Transport and Environment Committee, Councillor Bell’s view that the Mayor of London’s plan to reduce funding for the taxi card scheme undermines the support he gave to the scheme during his 2016 election campaign.”

10.9 Motion in the name of Councillor Fonyonga

“Enfield Council recognises the competing demands for essential services to residents and that these demands have grown with austerity while funding for services has decreased. This Council further recognises that one woman in four experiences domestic violence in their lifetime and on average two women are killed by their partner or ex-partner every single week. Refuge spaces for women in Enfield, and across the country, are therefore a life or death matter.

This Council has campaigned to prioritise support for women who suffer from domestic abuse and violence.

Enfield Council calls upon the Government to:

1. Make funding for women’s refuges mandatory so that they do not have to compete with other services for funds, and
2. Provide sufficient money from Central Government sources so that refuges are safeguarded and not reduced.”

11. COUNCILLOR QUESTION TIME

11.1 Urgent Questions (Part 4 - Paragraph 9.2.(b) of Constitution – Page 4-9)

With the permission of the Mayor, questions on urgent issues may be tabled with the proviso of a subsequent written response if the issue requires research or is considered by the Mayor to be minor.

Please note that the Mayor will decide whether a question is urgent or not.

The definition of an urgent question is “An issue which could not reasonably have been foreseen or anticipated prior to the deadline for the submission of questions and which needs to be considered before the next meeting of the Council.”

Submission of urgent questions to Council requires the Member when submitting the question to specify why the issue could not have been reasonably foreseen prior to the deadline and why it has to be considered before the next meeting.

11.2 Councillors’ Questions (Part 4 – Paragraph 9.2(a) of Constitution – Page 4 - 8)

Please note that the list of questions and their written responses will be published on Tuesday 30 January 2018.

12. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

To confirm the following changes to Committee memberships:

- Audit and Risk Management Committee – Peter Nwosu to be appointed as the independent member of the committee.

Please note that any further changes received once the agenda has been published will be tabled on the Council update sheet at the meeting.

13. NOMINATIONS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

To confirm the following changes to the nominations to outside bodies.

- Red Lion Homes – Councillor Oykenner be nominated as the Council’s second representative.

Please note that any further changes notified after the agenda has been published will be reported to Council on the update sheet tabled at the meeting.

14. CALLED IN DECISIONS

None received.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To note the date agreed for the next Council meeting:

- Wednesday 21 February 2018 at 7pm at Enfield Civic Centre.

16. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

To pass a resolution under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 excluding the press and public from the meeting for any items of business moved to part 2 on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in those paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006) as listed on the agenda.

There is no part 2 agenda.

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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 22 NOVEMBER 2017**

COUNCILLORS

PRESENT

Christine Hamilton (Mayor), Doris Jiagge (Deputy Mayor), Abdul Abdullahi, Daniel Anderson, Ali Bakir, Dinah Barry, Alev Cazimoglu, Nesil Cazimoglu, Erin Celebi, Lee Chamberlain, Bambos Charalambous, Jason Charalambous, Katherine Chibah, Lee David-Sanders, Dogan Delman, Guney Dogan, Sarah Doyle, Christiana During, Patricia Ekechi, Nesimi Erbil, Peter Fallart, Krystle Fonyonga, Achilleas Georgiou, Alessandro Georgiou, Ahmet Hasan, Elaine Hayward, Robert Hayward, Ertan Hurer, Suna Hurman, Jansev Jemal, Eric Jukes, Nneka Keazor, Adeline Kepez, Joanne Laban, Bernadette Lappage, Dino Lemonides, Mary Maguire, Andy Milne, Terence Neville OBE JP, Ayfer Orhan, Ahmet Oykener, Anne-Marie Pearce, Daniel Pearce, Vicki Pite, Michael Rye OBE, George Savva MBE, Toby Simon, Alan Sitkin, Andrew Stafford, Jim Steven, Claire Stewart, Doug Taylor (Leader of the Council), Haydar Ulus and Glynis Vince

ABSENT

Chris Bond, Yasemin Brett, Nick Dines, Michael Lavender, Derek Levy, Donald McGowan and Edward Smith

1

ELECTION IF REQUIRED OF THE CHAIR/DEPUTY CHAIR OF THE MEETING

Not required.

2

THE MAYOR'S CHAPLAIN TO GIVE A BLESSING

The Mayor's Chaplain, Rabbi Yuval Keren from the Southgate Progressive Synagogue, gave the blessing.

3

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE ORDINARY BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the new Director of Law and Governance, Jeremy Chambers.

1. Tributes to Former Councillors

The Mayor paid tribute and offered condolences to the families of Councillor Turgut Esendagli and John Boast, Freeman of the Borough and former councillor who had both recently passed away.

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Councillor Taylor paid tribute to Turgut Esendagli, a man he had known well who had been taken far too young. He knew that if he had been in better health he would have done much more, but not withstanding this, he had been a respected, dedicated and hard-working ward councillor for Enfield Highway. He had also had a passion for football working for, amongst others, Crawley Borough, Essex Town as chair, and as coach for the Turkish national team.

Councillor Taylor also paid tribute to John Boast whom he had known longer and who had been on the Council intermittently since 1964, when it was first formed. He had last seen him earlier this summer when his cancer had seemed to be in remission.

John Boast had lately served as the ward councillor for Turkey Street and had been very active on the Licensing Committee and as Chairman of the North London Waste Authority. He was hard-working, dedicated and methodical – meticulously even planning his own funeral – a councillor for whom Councillor Taylor had had great respect. Councillor Taylor expressed his condolences to John Boast's friends and family for their deep loss.

Councillor Laban paid tribute to John Boast who had been a family friend and also a friend to many in the local conservative party. John Boast, who had been involved in Enfield since the Council was first established, had given his life to making Enfield a better place and lots of time to the Enfield Conservative Group. She expressed thanks for the work that he had done.

Councillor Celebi offered her condolences to John Boast's family and friends. She also paid tribute to Turgut Esendagli whom she had known for many years, mainly because of his activities with the large Turkish football community, with which her own husband had also been involved. Turgut had given much of his life to the benefit of footballers. Waltham Forest Football Club had lost a great mentor. He would be much missed by the community and she offered her condolences to his wife and young family.

One minutes silence was held in honour of both men.

2. Engagements since the last Council meeting

The Mayor reported that she had been very busy since the last meeting, attending over 44 engagements in November alone. She thanked her deputy Councillor Doris Jiagge for her continued support in covering engagements on her behalf. She felt that without her deputy, the Mayoral office would not have been able to accept so many engagements.

The main events since the last meeting included:

- Citizenship ceremonies at which she was honoured to be present.
- Enfield Vision Focus Day – the Mayor had been pleased to support this group.

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- Mayor's Fun Run, Tea party and trophies for horticulture – the Mayor thanked everyone who had taken part.
- Poem-A-Thon Event at the Dugdale Centre – showing the great variety of talent in the borough.
- Ruth Winston Health and Wellbeing Day – the Mayor said it was always a pleasure to be part of the Ruth Winston family.
- Animal Charter Awards – a first in Enfield.
- Guest Speaker at the Enfield Racial Equality Council celebrating diversity event.
- Fashion Show at the Nightingale Cancer Support – one of the Enfield Cares chosen tragedies.
- Welcoming more than 60 children from St Michael's School to the council chamber during their outrageous advocacy week. The Mayor said that during their debate the children had asked some extremely intelligent questions and were thrilled to visit us. She had encouraged them to continue their political awareness by explaining how the council meetings operate. She thought that some of them might be budding politicians for the future.
- Welcoming 14 children from St Andrew's School. The Mayor thanked Councillor Rye for organising this trip. The children had thoroughly enjoyed the visit, to both the mayor's parlour and the council chamber and had asked some very intelligent questions for their age. She had been very impressed.
- Culture Bid/Private View by Patrick Samuel which had been truly inspiring. The Mayor had bought a lovely painting for the Mayor's Parlour.
- Remembrance Weekend – the Deputy Mayor had attended the Broomfield Park ceremony whilst the Mayor had been at the Greater London Authority service. The Deputy Mayor had attended the Outward Procession on 11 November 2017 to see the inauguration of the new Lord Mayor of London. On Sunday 12 November 2017, the Deputy Mayor had attended the Southgate ceremony, while the Mayor attended the ceremony in Edmonton. Everyone had then met at the Enfield War Memorial at lunchtime. It was a touching day, in remembrance of all those who had lost their lives through war. It had been good to see so many young people attending, walking with the parades.

3. Mayor's Charity

The Mayor said that her charity was progressing. She thanked all those who had attended the very successful Macmillan Coffee Morning on the 29 September 2017 in the Mayor's Parlour, and the Blues Night at the Chickenshed theatre - a great evening. The Mayor thanked the Chickenshed for putting on the event, a great fund raiser for her charity. She was very grateful. She also thanked Hayes Rees (the Macmillan support representative) for his dedication to the work he was undertaking for her charity.

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4. Future Events

Future events included:

- The Enfield Cares Music Festival at the Millfield Theatre (27 January 2018)
- The Mayoral Ball (17 February 2018) at the Penridge Suite, Arnos Grove. Invitations had been sent out in the post. Members were asked to respond quickly to secure their places.

5. Congratulations to Enfield Town Football Club

The Mayor congratulated Enfield Town Football Club on the official launch of their 3G pitch, which was taking place this week. She said it would be an honour to be there and she wished them every success in the future, as Britain's first football club owned solely by their supporters. She encouraged all Enfield residents to attend games, to support their local club. If they did, she was sure that they would not be disappointed as the standard of play was superb.

6. Personnel Today - Human Resources Award

The Council's Human Resources team had had a very successful evening, the night before the Council meeting, as they had won the Personnel Today Award for Innovation in Recruitment – a great achievement. The team would be attending January's Council meeting to be presented with the award.

4

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19 SEPTEMBER 2017

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 September 2017 were confirmed as a correct record.

5

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bond, Brett, Dines, Lavender, Levy, McGowan and Smith and for lateness from Councillors Charalambous and Keazor.

6

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillor Alessandro Georgiou declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 13.8 Motion in the name of Councillor Laban on the extension of the Mayor of London's Ultra Low Emission Zone as he worked for a company which had a client who was involved in the industry.

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Councillor Abdul Abdullahi declared a non-pecuniary interest, as a school governor, in item 13.1 Motion in the name of Councillor Ayfer Orhan on the Government funding for education.

7

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ASSOCIATED RISK TO YOUNG PEOPLE TASK GROUP

Councillor Jemal moved and Councillor Elaine Hayward seconded the Annual Report of the Child Sexual Exploitation and Associated Risk to Young People Task Group. (Report No: 102)

NOTED

1. That 112 new cases had been reported over the past year and that more enforcement was being carried out. The most common type of abuse reported in Enfield was peer on peer abuse. This reflected a growing trend across London. A positive was that the number of cases was not increasing and that better reporting was taking place.
2. The task group was putting forward a recommendation that the terms of reference should be amended to widen their remit to include vulnerable adults and young people generally. The task group felt that other abuse issues such as gang violence and drug and alcohol were heavily interrelated with sexual exploitation and that it made sense to widen the focus of the group and mirror this at the committee level.
3. Councillor Jemal, as Chair, said that she was proud of what had been set up and the great work that the task group councillors were doing. She thanked them and the officers (Anne Stoker, Assistant Director Children's Social Care, and Grant Landon, Service Manager Practice and Partnerships, an outstanding Council Officer) for the support that they had provided and the work that they did for the Council in this area. Their work and external funding were critical to the success of the service.
4. The support of the opposition including Councillors Elaine Hayward, Glynis Vince and Mike Rye who agreed with all that had been said and added their thanks to the officers and Councillor Jemal.
5. The emphasis on the recommendation that all members attend the safeguarding training, put on by the Council, as not everyone had to date.
6. The crossover with issues such as modern slavery, young people missing school and the inclusion of forced marriages and female genital mutilation within the revised remit of the group.

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7. The exemplary nature of the cross party working involved in the group and recognition that the issues were being taken seriously across the Council.
8. Acknowledgement that the group had been set up because of the horrific events in Rotherham and the determination that such things should not happen in Enfield.

AGREED

1. To ask all members to increase their awareness of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and related issues and attend safeguarding training sessions that were available especially for members.
2. That the CSE task group acknowledges the progress made in understanding offenders / persons of concern but also recognises the need to continue to improve profiling on a local and pan-London basis establishing consistency of approach across police services. The Council agrees to recommend that the borough police and the Metropolitan Police Service continue to work with Enfield partners to complete the persons of concern local profile that has recently been developed.
3. To approve a change to the terms of reference of the CSE task group to include a focus on a range of other inter-related vulnerabilities. This change will be acknowledged and supported thereby improving oversight and scrutiny of these important areas.
4. To recommend continued development of an integrated preventative approach across departments to focus upon hotspots and places of concern where CSE and related issues can occur.

8

ENFIELD ADULT SAFEGUARDING BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17

Councillor Cazimoglu moved and Councillor Lappage seconded the report of the Executive Director Health, Housing and Adult Social Care presenting the Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2016-2017. (Report No: 62A)

NOTED

1. To note that the Cabinet had considered this report on 18 October 2017 and had recognised the good work that was being done, in partnership with statutory and non-statutory agencies, to keep vulnerable residents safe. The report had also been considered by the Health and Wellbeing Board, made up of partners from the Clinical Commissioning Group, Healthwatch and the voluntary sector.

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2. Enfield has over 100 care homes and 60 home care agencies and the Council was committed to the principle that keeping these residents safe was everyone's business. It was therefore felt to be very important to raise awareness of the issues across the borough.
3. The thanks to everyone involved in this area of work and the emphasis on the importance of training and re-training.
4. Appreciation that Modern Slavery was now an area that had been included in the report.
5. The comments from the Opposition that although there were positives, there were issues highlighted in the report that did need addressing including the 42% of nursing homes that required improvements and the 25% rated inadequate for domiciliary care. The view that it would have been helpful to have the year on year picture as well as more information about what is being done to address these issues.
6. The response that Enfield's figures were better than other similar authorities.
7. The view that the penalties available to punish those that ill-treat vulnerable people should be increased and that London Councils should be pressed to ensure that offenders can feel the full force of the law.
8. That there were constituents with severe mental health problems in need of support. However the services available were underfunded and many people had to reach crisis levels before support was forthcoming. Acknowledgement that there was a long way from parity of esteem between mental health and other health services.

AGREED to note the progress being made in protecting vulnerable adults in the borough as set out in the annual report of the Safeguarding Adults Board.

9

REFERENCE FROM MEMBER AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES GROUP - REVISED PETITIONS SCHEME

Councillor Simon moved and Councillor Fonyonga seconded a report from the Chief Executive recommending changes to the Council's petitions scheme. (Report No: 103)

NOTED

1. The report had been recommended to Council by the Member and Democratic Services Group.
2. The scheme had been revised, following careful consideration by the Member and Democratic Services Group, to ensure that the scheme

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could only be used by those people living, working and studying in Enfield – this would include people living on out of borough estates and those who had been placed by the local authority outside the borough.

3. Other amendments included changes to the complaints procedures and additions to the list of petitions that the Council were unable to accept.
4. Thanks to all the officers involved for their hard work in facilitating the improvements to the Council's democratic processes.
5. The reservations of the Opposition in regard to the changes to the eligibility requirements for those signing petitions which they saw as a part of a pattern of the Labour administration restricting democratic scrutiny and a reluctance to listen to counter arguments.
6. The opposition view that people living outside the borough, including those using the road system, shopping in Enfield centres, living on the borders might have legitimate views which the Council should take account of. It should be possible to draw a distinction to include these people in the scheme.
7. The response that there were alternative methods including consultations on particular projects such as Cycle Enfield which enabled people with legitimate views to feed them into the Council. The Council's processes were transparent and open and it was ready to act responsibly, listen and to take account of the views of all those with an interest. The petitions scheme was just one scheme, one designed for Enfield residents.
8. In summing up Councillor Simon said that there was a balance to be made between a comprehensive consultation process and a petition scheme. When consulting there was a need to identify where people are coming from: there was not a rigid line. This was different from a petition scheme for residents of the borough. The changes had been agreed originally on a cross party basis.

Following the discussion the recommendations in the report were put to the vote with the following result:

For: 33

Against: 0

Abstentions: 18

AGREED to approve the proposed changes to the Council's petition scheme as set out in appendix A to the report.

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10

REFERENCE FROM COUNCILLOR CONDUCT COMMITTEE - CHANGES TO PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING COMPLAINTS AGAINST COUNCILLORS AND CO-OPTED MEMBERS

Councillor Stewart moved and Councillor Achilleas Georgiou seconded a report of the Head of Legal Services reviewing the Councillor Code of Conduct procedures for handling complaints against elected members and co-opted members. (Report No: 100)

NOTED

1. The recommendations had been agreed and put forward following a review of the procedures by the Councillor Conduct Committee.
2. The main change was to enable the Monitoring Officer to pursue complaints of a serious nature even where they may have been withdrawn by the complainant.
3. The Opposition suggested that further detail on this was required and suggested that the recommendations should be agreed, subject to further discussion at the Councillor Conduct Committee.

AGREED

1. To approve a change to the Councillor Code of Conduct procedures for handling complaints against elected and co-opted members to enable the Monitoring Officer to pursue complaints if she/he thinks that these warrant further investigation, even if they have been withdrawn. The full text of the change is included in paragraph 3.5 of the report.
2. To include the procedure for hearing complaints (as attached as Appendix 2 to this report) as an appendix to the Councillor Code of Conduct in the Council Constitution.

(This was agreed subject to further discussion on the wording around what determines a matter to be taken forward.)

11

REFERENCE FROM AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - REVISED CONTRACT PROCEDURE RULES

Councillor Maguire moved and Councillor Dogan seconded a report of the Executive Director Finance, Resources and Customer Services reviewing the Council's contract procedure rules. (Report No: 101)

NOTED

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1. The changes proposed had been agreed and recommended for approval to Council by the Audit and Risk Management Committee at their meeting on 1 November 2017.
2. The revised rules comply with legal requirements, reflect changes made as a result of the establishment of the new procurement and commissioning hub, reduce the number of pages, make the rules simpler and easier to read, include the addition of an index and use plain English. The attached guidance spell out the rules in a simple form. The rules will ease understanding and make complying with the relevant legislation easier.
3. The whole hearted support of the Opposition for the new rules because of concerns about the way contracts had been let in the past but also concern:
 - That the rules would be worthless if they are not properly enforced.
 - About the use of waivers which although going down were still felt to be too high.
 - About the use of framework contracts where separate tenders were not required.
4. The response that number of waivers obtained had dropped substantially in the past few years for which officers were to be congratulated. At the last meeting of the Audit and Risk Management Committee only two waivers had been reported. Rules and regulations were felt to be working.

AGREED to approve the changes to the Council's contract procedure rules for inclusion within the Council's constitution.

12 BUSINESS RATES

Councillor Lemonides moved and Councillor seconded the report of the Executive Director Finance, Resources and Customer Services on business rates. (Report No: 90A)

NOTED

1. The report asks for Council in principle approval to join a Londonwide business rate pool which will mean retaining more of the rates in London. Approximately £240m will be shared out. The weighted distribution should be favourable to Enfield and the Council should receive an extra £4.2m.

AGREED

1. To approve in principle participation in a London Business Rates Pilot Pool with effect from 1 April 2018.

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2. To delegate the Council's administrative functions as a billing authority to the appropriate lead authority/joint committee.
3. To delegate authority to the Leader and Executive Director of Finance, Resources and Customer Services
 - To agree the operational details of the pooling arrangements with the participating authorities
 - To enter into such agreement as may be necessary to implement the pool and to negotiate, finalise and execute the same on behalf of the Council.

13

CHANGE IN THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

Councillor Stewart moved and Councillor Ekechi seconded a proposal under paragraph 2.2(B) of the Council procedure rules to change the order of items on the agenda to take the following motions in the following order:

- 13.6 Motion in the name of Councillor Pite
- 13.4 Motion in the name of Councillor Oykenner
- 13.1 Motion in the name of Councillor Orhan
- 13.2 Motion in the name of Councillor Achilleas Georgiou
- 13.3 Motion in the name of Councillor Taylor
- 13.5 Motion in the name of Councillor Taylor

The change in the order was agreed without a vote.

The minutes reflect the order of the meeting.

14

MOTIONS

Motion 13.6

Councillor Pite moved and Councillor Sitkin seconded the following motion:

“The Mayor of London launched The London Borough of Culture competition at the start of September 2017. The process of submitting an application will bring together Enfield's Cultural organisations and build on the good work done through Enfield Festivals and Events. There is so much to celebrate about Culture in Enfield including Europe's most inclusive theatre at Chickenshed, accessibility and participation at Millfield, rich heritage and award winning organic farming at Forty Hall and community led Festivals and Events in parks across the borough. Along with our Museums, Theatres, Community Cinema, Community Arts Organisations, Jazz and Blues Clubs, Choirs, Orchestras and Enfield Music Service we have what it takes to make us London's Borough of Culture. This Council unanimously supports the bid.”

Following the debate, the motion was agreed, after a roll call vote with the following result:

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For: 33

Councillor Abdullahi
Councillor Anderson
Councillor Bakir
Councillor Barry
Councillor A Cazimoglu
Councillor N Cazimoglu
Councillor Chibah
Councillor Dogan
Councillor Doyle
Councillor During
Councillor Ekechi
Councillor E Erbil
Councillor N Erbil
Councillor Fonyonga
Councillor Achilleas Georgiou
Councillor Hasan
Councillor Hurman
Councillor Jemal
Councillor Jiagge
Councillor Keazor
Councillor Lappage
Councillor Lemonides
Councillor Maguire
Councillor Orhan
Councillor Pite
Councillor Savva
Councillor Simon
Councillor Sitkin
Councillor Stewart
Councillor Steven
Councillor Taylor
Councillor Ulus

Against: 0

Abstentions: 15

Councillor Celebi
Councillor Chamberlain
Councillor David Sanders
Councillor Delman
Councillor Fallart
Councillor Alessandro Georgiou
Councillor E Hayward
Councillor R Hayward
Councillor Hurer
Councillor Laban
Councillor Milne

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Councillor D Pearce
Councillor Rye
Councillor Steven
Councillor Vince

Motion 13.4

Councillor Oykenor moved and Councillor Taylor seconded the following motion:

“Following the tragedy at Grenfell Tower Enfield Council took the decision to retro fit sprinklers in all our tower blocks. This will improve safety for our residents.

The cost of the work will be at least £8 million, and should be funded by the Government as they indicated that they would. Not to do so would be a betrayal of our tenants and leaseholders.”

During the debate, Councillor Vince moved and Councillor Rye seconded a proposal under paragraph 14.11 (a) (i) of the Council Constitution that the motion now be put. This was not agreed, following a vote with the following result:

For: 13
Against: 31
Abstentions: 0

After further debate the motion was agreed without a vote.

Motion 13.1

Councillor Orhan moved and Councillor Pite seconded the following motion:

“Having been hugely disappointed with Government’s failure to listen to our call for a fairer funding for Enfield Schools, Enfield Council looks forward to seeing increased funding for schools in the next budget.”

Following a debate the motion was agreed after a vote with the following result:

For: 33
Against: 14
Abstentions: 0

Change in the order of Business

Councillor Stewart moved and Councillor Ekechi seconded a proposal under paragraph 2.2(B) of the Council procedure rules to change the order of items on the agenda to take Motion 13.10 as the next item of business. This was agreed without a vote.

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Motion 13.10

Councillor Neville moved and Councillor Alessandro Georgiou seconded the following motion:

“Following the recent sentencing of cyclist Charlie Alliston who was convicted of “wanton and furious driving” following the death of Mrs Kim Briggs in Old Street in London, and the more recent conviction of a second cyclist of “causing injury by wilful misconduct”, both ancient offences used by prosecutors to deal with these cases because of a lack of modern cycling law, the Council calls on the government to thoroughly review the laws relating to cycling to bring them into line with those applicable to motorists, so that the public are properly protected against both the irresponsible and dangerous acts of a minority of cyclists, and from accidental damage injury when it occurs. Council instructs the Director of Law and Governance to forward this motion to the Secretary of State for Transport.”

During the debate, as the time allocated for this section of the meeting had run out, Councillor Taylor moved and Councillor Stewart seconded a proposal to adjourn the debate, under paragraph 14.11 (a) (iv) of the Council procedure rules. It was agreed, without a vote, that the debate would be continued at the next meeting.

Duration of the time allowed for motions.

The Mayor advised, at this stage of the meeting, that the time available for motions had now elapsed so Council Procedure Rule 9 would apply.

Motions 13.2, 13.3, 13.5, 13.7, 13.8 and 13.9 lapsed under the guillotine.

15

COUNCILLOR QUESTION TIME

1. Urgent Questions

The Mayor reported that she had received one question after the ordinary deadline for the receipt of questions for Council. On the advice of the Monitoring Officer, the Mayor had determined that the question did not meet the Council's urgency provisions and could therefore wait to be considered at the next Council meeting.

2. Questions by Councillors

NOTED

1. The thirty nine questions on the Council agenda and the written responses provided by the relevant Cabinet Members.

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2. The following supplementary questions and responses received for the questions listed below:

Question 1 (Money Spent on Artificial Intelligence) from Councillor Laban to Councillor Lemonides, Cabinet Member for Finance and Efficiency

Councillor Laban thanked Councillor Lemonides for his question and asked when we could expect Amelia to be alive?

Reply from Councillor Lemonides

Councillor Lemonides replied that the money spent so far was initial expenditure, the start of a long journey, a process of modernisation and transformation. Work was ongoing. When it was fully implemented it would be appraised and a cost benefit analysis would be carried out.

Question 2 (Government's Budget Statement) from Councillor Abdullahi to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

Councillor Abdullahi asked for Councillor Taylor's view on the budget?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

Councillor Taylor responded by saying that what the budget demonstrated, was what the Labour administration has been saying since 2010, that this was a Government that had hard wired austerity into its fiscal policy and created disaster for the country. He felt that there was nothing of any real worth for local government, nothing on social care, but there was £3 billion for BREXIT.

George Osborne, when Chancellor of the Exchequer, had been going to eliminate the deficit, by 2020. Last year the deficit was £24.4 billion and this year it has risen by a further £4 billion. The impact of this on Enfield would be that house prices would rise, wages in public sector would stagnate and prospects for growth would be downgraded. Prices are increasing. The future for residents of the borough is bleak. They will have to work longer and get paid less. Although the Chancellor has said that there is no unemployment, which is good. The only good news is that this is another nail in the coffin of the Government.

Question 3 (Parsonage Lane Housing Improvement Scheme) from Councillor Laban to Councillor Oykenner, Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration

Councillor Laban asked as the question suggests we approach the 80th week of a projected 23 week housing scheme, which many residents have had enough of. She said that there had been talk about the charges leaseholder's will face and that this will be an increase on 3 months ago. In the light of the fact that we have put financial penalties on United Living, she asked for a commitment, from the Cabinet Member, that the leaseholder charges when

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they get sent out will be final, as there have been discrepancies and different amounts have been paid out. They have already been put through a lot.

Reply from Councillor Oykenner

Councillor Oykenner said that he can only repeat the answer to the original question. There will be no further charges on leaseholders except what has already been agreed, nothing more as a result of the delays.

Question 4 (Racing on the A10 and A406) from Councillor Pite to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Council Pite thanked Councillor Anderson for his response but asked why it is only now that Transport for London was taking action against the racers on the A10?

Reply from Councillor Anderson:

Councillor Anderson replied that speeding and car cruising along A10 had been a long standing problem and both the police and Transport for London have failed to take action in the past. The recent change of attitude was the result of persistent and effective campaigning from Councillor Pite, himself and Joan Ryan MP. They had managed to argue in favour of reasons for action. He said that they had been able to bring clear evidence to show that the number of collisions on A10 had increased since the sackings of cameras, including 6 collisions this year, where people have been killed or seriously injured. Thankfully, he said, we have managed to get them to take action and that he felt was effective campaigning.

Question 5 (Parsonage Lane Maisonettes) from Councillor Laban to Councillor Oykenner, Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration

Councillor Laban said that currently snagging works were still being carried out, the Heath Close door entry system did not work on and there was still lots to do on Parsonage Lane. She asked if we could believe that United Living would complete the work by Christmas, because previously what United Living had said was very different from reality. She asked if the Cabinet Member had any other confirmation that United Living would be off the site by Christmas.

Reply from Councillor Oykenner

Councillor Oykenner replied that the answer is as he had said in the original question. At the end of any major works programme there was likely to be snagging work, there were improvements to make and that was what was happening. All he could say was that it was his belief that the works would be completed by Christmas.

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Question 6 (Meridian Water – Negotiations with the Master Developer) from Councillor Ekechi to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration and Business Development

Councillor Ekechi thanked Councillor Sitkin for his response and asked if he could confirm the level of market confidence in the Meridian Water project.

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

Councillor Sitkin replied that he could confirm that there was an enormous level of market confidence in Meridian Water. The Council were currently fending off approaches, because they were currently engaged in a process of negotiation with PCPD and doing everything in their power to make that deal.

The truth was very different from the letter that Councillor Smith had put in the Enfield Independent about a week and a half ago which led to a very inaccurate article in that paper. He felt that it was contrary to the interests of the Council for the Conservative Party to express doubt about the future of Meridian Water. He was respectful of the fact that Councillor Smith was not at the meeting because of a family issue, but felt that it would be good if Councillor Smith could apologise for putting this misleading information in the press. He was however aware that it would be rectified.

Question 8 (World Mental Health Day) from Councillor Barry to Councillor A Cazimoglu, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care

Councillor Barry asked if the Cabinet Member could inform her about what changes had been made to support mental health service users.

Reply from Councillor A Cazimoglu

Councillor Cazimoglu responded saying that the local authority was delivering for mental health users, unlike government. She said that the Council had a joint tender with Haringey to support those with mental health issues and to provide sustained and meaningful support for safeguarding. A lot of work had been done. The Council would also be tendering the independent mental health advocacy service and with the Enfield Clinical Commissioning Group will be tendering for a dual diagnosis service for substance misuse.

Water

Question 9 (Thames Water, Sewerage and Water Charges) from Councillor Neville to Councillor Oyken, Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration

Councillor Neville said that he was not clear what Councillor Oyken saying. If he was referring to selling services this was not what he thought the Southwark case was about. He thought that it was about Councils acting as agents and keeping the global savings.

Reply from Councillor Anderson

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Councillor Oykenner felt that the question had been answered and that it was quite clear. The answer was based on the outcome of the Southwark case. People would be dealt with when they approach the Council on an individual basis, case by case.

Question 11 (Contractor Payments for the A105 Scheme) from Councillor Neville to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Councillor Neville thanked Councillor Anderson for his response but said that total expenditure had reached £7.9 million and the Council needed to know if he was not shocked that we had already have reached the point that Cabinet was told would be the estimated cost of this particular part of the project. He felt that the fact that we know that we have £42 million this contract was irrelevant. This part of the scheme was for a specific sum. He wanted to know whether Councillor Anderson was satisfied that the Council was not going to overspend the part of the budget approved for this project.

Reply from Councillor Anderson

Councillor Anderson responded that he was satisfied. He said that this was a very large construction project and a lot of the initial costings had been carried out before the detailed design had been completed. The entire scheme had been fully costed and there was a detailed business plan which ensured that the entire scheme would be delivered, as would every other scheme, as tendered.

Councillor Anderson was not concerned. He was aware that there was a rigorous review process in place which was ongoing to make sure that the programme does deliver. He reassured Councillor Neville that the entire project was funded by external funds, primarily provided by the Mayor of London and Transport for London. He felt that the A105 scheme should be a cause for celebration.

Question 12 (Enfield Schools Physical Education Provision) from Councillor Lappage to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection

Councillor Lappage congratulated all schools on their achievements.

Question 13 (Width of Cycle Lane on Winchmore Hill Broadway) from Councillor Neville to Councillor Anderson

Councillor Neville said that there seemed to be a contradiction between saying that there will be changes to the final design and Councillor Anderson's response to the particular point about what has happened along this parade. He felt that if Councillor Anderson had known that the design was faulty from the beginning why had he allowed them to get on with the work, only to have it all ripped up again at further cost and further disruption to the residents, shoppers and businesses.

Reply from Councillor Anderson

Councillor Anderson replied that once again Councillor Neville was he felt putting forward the old arguments but that what he was not understanding was that there was a contingency fund built into the programme to enable the programme to be reviewed as it went along and in order to make amendments as necessary. He had no qualms about making amendments to meet the needs of the residents as appropriate and he thought that the amendments made were correct and appropriate.

Question 14 (Difficulties arising from School Funding) from Councillor Barry to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection

Councillor Barry thanked Councillor Orhan for her response and asked if there had been any increased funding for Enfield schools in the budget.

Reply from Councillor Orhan

Councillor Orhan responded that unfortunately there had not been any increase in funding and although she had been hoping for a u-turn, she had not received one. The budget announcement, on the new funding formula, had not covered the shortfall in the budget for Enfield schools.

Councillor Orhan said that she thought that the schools would continue to suffer and although they would continue to try and look at innovative ways of reducing their budgets, to educate their children, this was becoming increasingly challenging. Eventually she felt that they would be left with nothing. Core funding had also not been increased and was being systematically reduced. The Chancellor had not addressed this either. She felt that the Government was not listening.

Question 15 (Compensation for Businesses along the A105 Cycle Route) from Councillor Neville to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Councillor Neville thanked Councillor Anderson for his answer and said that he was fully aware of the valuation. But the reality was that a 10% rate reduction was, in his opinion, a pittance when compared with the proven losses that have been suffered by some of the businesses along this route. He felt that the Council had the power and the money to compensate and should do so. It should come from the £42 million. He asked if Councillor Anderson agreed with what he had said.

Reply from Councillor Anderson

Councillor Anderson replied that it was like Ground Hog day. Councillor Neville looked on the gloomy side. He felt that there was a new business confidence along the A105 route, with new businesses opening up, including

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the Little Green Dragon micro pub, a new co-op in Palmers Green, a new sports shop in Bush Hill Park parade, a barbers in Palmers Green and a new Tapas Bar that was due to open soon. Many businesses believed that the cycle route was not a hindrance but something that showed confidence in the area.

16

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

AGREED to confirm the following changes to committee memberships

- Audit and Risk Management Committee – Councillor Hurer to replace Councillor Milne.

17

NOMINATIONS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Council agreed to confirm the following changes to the nominations on outside bodies:

- Montague 406 Limited Liability Partnership: the Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration and Business Development and the Executive Director of Finance, Resources and Customer Services to represent the Council on the body.
- London Councils Leaders Committee: Councillor Orhan to replace Councillor B Charalambous as the Council's deputy representative.

18

CALLED IN DECISIONS

None received.

19

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

NOTED that the next ordinary Council meeting would take place on Wednesday 31 January 2018 at 7pm.

OPPOSITION PRIORITY BUSINESS – 31ST JANUARY 2018**HOUSING AND REGENERATION PROJECTS IN ENFIELD**

1. It should be a matter of serious concern to the Administration that the Council has failed to deliver any significant new housing on many of the brown field sites it owns.
2. The Council has the third highest number of households in temporary accommodation in the country. Young couples have great difficulty in buying their own homes or finding suitable private or social rented accommodation they can afford in Enfield. This crisis has many causes, most of which are beyond this or any other Council's control, but unlike most other London Boroughs, Enfield has a significant number of brown field sites that could and should have been developed for new housing.
3. Since Labour took control of the Council 8 years ago, the only significant schemes that have been completed are the Highmead Estate in Upper Edmonton and Dujardin Mews in Ponders End. The Ladderswood Estate in Southgate Green is under construction, but progress on the Small Sites Programme and the various large-scale estate renewal projects has been very slow. Of the schemes that have been constructed or are near completion, only Dujardin Mews was started by the current administration. Highmead and Ladderswood were initiated by the previous Conservative administration. This is a sorry record for a Labour Council that congratulates itself on helping the poor and disadvantaged parts of the Borough.
4. The Mayor of London has just published his London plan for consultation. The Plan emphasises the need to develop more new homes in London to cater for our rapidly increasing population. He is seeking to deliver 66,000 new homes across London of which 50% would be affordable. Whether or not this is achievable, Enfield is likely to face an increase in its housing target completions to 1,876 per annum. On its record over the past 8 years, the likelihood of the Council making an appropriate contribution to meeting the Mayor's target is in our view remote.

Meridian Water

5. After over a year of negotiation following Barratts successful bid for the Council's flagship scheme Meridian Water, Barratts withdrew. Obviously, there were reasons for this, but this was still a failure by the Council to achieve its stated objective of entering a partnership with Barratts. The Council is now in the midst of a second negotiation with PCPD, a Hong Kong based developer who came second in the original bidding exercise.
6. We on the Conservative side hope that a satisfactory deal can be done with PCPD. We have always supported the Meridian Water project and want it to succeed and provide the new housing and jobs that Enfield needs. However, there are major risks associated with this process that need to be satisfactorily addressed if the Council is to avoid financial loss and a completed scheme that fails to meet its original laudable objectives.

7. In terms of the financial position, we know that the Council has spent several hundred million pounds purchasing various sites at Meridian Water together with the legal, consultant and remediation costs ancillary to the project. In order to recoup its costs and hopefully make a surplus, it had expected to obtain a minimum figure per unit from the lead developer per phase when the sites were transferred over.
8. The current position is now however markedly different from when Barratts won the tender. In the first place, we on our side have brought to the Council's attention that one third of the developable land at Meridian Water is designated as strategic industrial land (SIL). The Mayor of London is concerned about the loss of industrial land to housing and therefore the GLA has stipulated that any loss of SIL at Meridian Water must be compensated by industrial land elsewhere in the Borough. This requirement has been known for some months, but we are still no wiser as to how much industrial land elsewhere can be identified. If the SIL at MW cannot be released for housing, the amount of developable land at Meridian Water will be significantly less than originally envisaged and there will be major consequences for the project.
9. The second major risk concerns the amount of affordable housing that will be provided on the site. His target of 50% is only a proposal at this stage but it shows that he intends to increase the levels of affordable housing being provided in London by private developers. Generally speaking the higher the level of affordable housing, the lower the profit margin of the developer. At Meridian Water, therefore, the Council will have to strike a deal at Meridian Water that is acceptable to both PCPD and the GLA. This will be no easy task and our concern is that the quality of the development will suffer and we seek reassurances that it will not.
10. The third major concern is the building contract the Council was pressured into by Network Rail to move the Angel Road train station into Phase 1 of the new development. We called this in because we had major concerns about the cost, the lack of information on the pedestrian and road network for the rest of the site, and who would meet the ongoing cost of the enhanced four trains an hour rail service. In addition, this contract was entered into whilst we suspected the negotiations with Barratts were collapsing and there was no certainty that a new developer would meet their share of the substantial costs of the new station.
11. There is not sufficient space to deal with knock on effects for the business plan for Energetik, a Council owned company that was set up to provide low cost heating for the homes on Meridian Water and elsewhere from the waste burned at the Edmonton incinerator site. Much of the necessary financial information to scrutinise this part of the overall project has been ruled as commercial in confidence and thus the true nature of any difficulties faced by the company have not as yet come out into the open.
12. In short, the Council's management of the Meridian Water project to date has

been disastrous. Some remediation works have taken place but not a single new home has been started. We have no idea whether the negotiations with PCPD will ever be completed or how long they will take. Also, we don't know whether PCPD will be prepared to meet the financial terms originally offered by Barratts and hence whether the Council will be able recoup the huge expense of acquiring sites at Meridian Water. Finally. We do not know what steps the Council will take to ameliorate the impact of the cost of these risks on the character of the scheme in terms of height of the blocks, tenure, density, green space, the number of jobs created, etc.

The Small Sites programme

13. A report on the Small Sites Programme was taken to Cabinet last summer 18 months after the main sub contractor, Climate Energy, went into liquidation. The report was tabled and Cabinet had to adjourn for 45 minutes in the middle of the meeting to consider it. This was a completely inappropriate way to take decisions on a major programme and the Cabinet should not have permitted it. Subsequently, a report was brought to full Council on 19th July 2017.
14. The Chamber will also recall that the small sites programme was the subject of Opposition Priority Business in November 2014. Our complaint at that time was that it had taken three years from cabinet approval to proceed before a single brick had been laid. The position then got worse not better.
15. The present position is that fewer than 35 of the 94 units in the programme have been completed. The 18 completed units at Jasper Close have had to be demolished and building works on the sites at Holtwhites Hill, Forty Hill and Lavender Hill have either not yet started or little progress has been made. The Council has so far spent or committed more than was originally agreed on the small housing sites programme and faces a large increase in the estimated final total cost.
16. The Administration will argue that these costs will be largely recouped by selling the 57 properties on the open market and increasing grant towards the remaining units. We would remind them that originally the council intended to let these 57 properties at market rents and hence generate a substantial ongoing income. This is incompetence of a high order and given where we are now, the Council would have been wiser to have sold off the 7 sites to a private developer in the first place. They would at least have obtained 37 completed affordable units, which by now would be occupied.

Capital Housing programme

17. As shown in the report to Cabinet of 20th December 2017, the approved housing programme budget for HRA major works, minor works and estate renewals stands at £80.7m, whilst actual spend at end of September was £23.7m. This is after reductions to the capital programme during the year of £26.7m in the previous financial year we were told that the housing capital budget would be largely spent by the end of the year. In the event there was

an underspend on a smaller programme of £9.21m.

18. To take just two recent examples, major refurbishment works to council estates at Blossom Lane, Heaths Close and Parsonage Lane have suffered delays running into months. This has naturally caused a great deal of stress and annoyance to the tenants who live in these properties. The fact that the contractors involved can provide reasons why these delays have occurred, doesn't excuse the fact that this all part of a repeating pattern that demonstrates that the Council is not managing its housing projects with the determination and expertise required.

Recommendations

1. That Councillor Oykenner and Councillor Sitkin resign from their Cabinet positions.
2. That the Leader of the Council provides a confidential briefing on Meridian Water to the Leader of the Opposition to reassure her that the concerns raised in this report are being addressed and the Council's position will be protected.
3. The Leader of the Council takes immediate and personal responsibility for the Small Sites Programme and sets up a council task force made up of the most experienced and competent officers to ensure this scheme is finally delivered.
4. To seek advice on housing building from other more successful London boroughs.
5. To appoint a full time Assistant Director for Housing with the experience and skills necessary to sort out the poor performance of Enfield's Housing Department and show that we are serious about Council Housing.
6. That the new Executive Director for Regeneration and Environment undertakes a full review of the Regeneration Department when she starts in the spring.
7. That the current re-organisation of the Housing Department regarding the management of major and minor works is completed as soon as possible.
8. A report on progress brought back to Full Council in six months particularly with respect to the delayed housing schemes.

15. OPPOSITION BUSINESS

- 15.1 The Council will, at four meetings a year, give time on its agenda to issues raised by the Official Opposition Party (second largest party). This will be at the first normal business meeting (in May /June), and then the third (September), fifth (January) and seventh (March) meetings (unless otherwise agreed between the political parties). A minimum of 45 minutes will be set aside at each of the four meetings.
- 15.2 All Council meetings will also provide opportunities for all parties and individual councillors to raise issues either through Question Time, motions or through policy and other debates.
- 15.3 The procedure for the submission and processing of such business is as follows:
- (a) The second largest party shall submit to the Monitoring Officer a topic for discussion no later than 21 calendar days prior to the Council meeting. This is to enable the topic to be fed into the Council agenda planning process and included in the public notice placed in the local press, Council publications, plus other outlets such as the Council's web site.
 - (b) The Monitoring Officer will notify the Mayor, Leader of the Council, the Chief Executive and the relevant Corporate Management Board member(s) of the selected topic(s).
 - (c) Opposition business must relate to the business of the Council, or be in the interests of the local community generally.
 - (d) If requested, briefings on the specific topic(s) identified will be available to the second largest party from the relevant Corporate Management Board member(s) before the Council meeting.
 - (e) No later than 9 calendar days (deadline time 9.00 am) prior to the meeting, the second largest party must provide the Monitoring Officer with an issues paper for inclusion within the Council agenda. This paper should set out the purpose of the business and any recommendations for consideration by Council. The order in which the business will be placed on the agenda will be in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 2.2 relating to the order of business at Council meetings.
 - (f) That Party Leaders meet before each Council meeting at which Opposition Business was to be discussed, to agree how that debate will be managed at the Council meeting.
 - (g) The discussion will be subject to the usual rules of debate for Council meetings, except as set out below. The Opposition Business will be conducted as follows:

- (i) The debate will be opened by the Leader of the Opposition (or nominated representative) who may speak for no more than 10 minutes.
- (ii) A nominated councillor of the Majority Group will be given the opportunity to respond, again taking no more than 10 minutes.
- (iii) The Mayor will then open the discussion to the remainder of the Council. Each councillor may speak for no more than 5 minutes but, with the agreement of the Mayor, may do so more than once in the debate.
- (iv) At the discretion of the Mayor the debate may take different forms including presentations by councillors, officers or speakers at the invitation of the second largest party.
- (v) Where officers are required to make a presentation this shall be confined to background, factual or professional information. All such requests for officer involvement should be made through the Chief Executive or the relevant Director.
- (vi) The issue paper should contain details of any specific actions or recommendations being put forward for consideration as an outcome of the debate on Opposition Business.
- (vii) Amendments to the recommendations within the Opposition Business paper may be proposed by the Opposition Group. They must be seconded. The Opposition will state whether the amendment(s) is/are to replace the recommendations within the paper or be an addition to them.
- (viii) Before the Majority party concludes the debate, the Leader of the Opposition will be allowed no more than 5 minutes to sum up the discussion.
- (ix) The Majority Group will then be given the opportunity to say if, and how, the matter will be progressed.
- (x) If requested by the Leader of the Opposition or a nominated representative, a vote will be taken on whether to approve the Majority Group's response.

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2017/2018 REPORT NO. **137**

MEETING TITLE AND DATE:

CABINET, 24th January 2018
COUNCIL, 31st January 2018

REPORT OF:

**Executive Director of Finance,
 Resources and Customer
 Services**

Contact Officers: Sally Sanders/

Geoff Waterton

Key Decision 4588

Agenda – Part: 1	Item: 8
Subject: Council Tax Support Scheme for 2018/19 and the Council and Business Rate Tax Bases 2018/19 Wards: All	

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 In January 2013 Council agreed a new local Council Tax Support Scheme to replace the previous national Council Tax Benefit Scheme which was to be abolished by the Government in April 2013.
- 1.2 Every year the Council is obliged to consider whether to revise or replace its local Council Tax Support Scheme.
- 1.3 This report recommends the Council Tax Support Scheme for 2018/19 maintains the current minimum contribution for working age households not in a protected group at 26.5%, introduces an income threshold for universal credit claimants and a further protected group for care leavers. There are also some administrative changes introduced to ensure the operation of the scheme after the roll out of universal credit maximises take up of council tax support and some alignment of the national uprating of social security benefit rates to the local council tax support scheme.
- 1.4 A hard copy of the revised Council Tax Support Scheme which the Council is required to produce under section 13A(1)(a) and Schedule 1A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 is available in the members library and will be available on line once the scheme is agreed. The Council must adopt the same or new scheme by 11 March of the preceding financial year to which the scheme will apply. The report also recommends the 2018/19 Council Tax and Business Rate bases (Appendix D and E).

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That Cabinet recommends to Council:

- A. That Council agrees the Local Council Tax Support Scheme for 2018/19 to provide financial support for households on low incomes in paying their Council Tax taking into account the consultation responses (Appendix C) and the Equality Impact Assessment (Appendix B).

For the 2018/19 scheme:

- The minimum contribution for working age households not in a protected group will be maintained at 26.5%.
 - The maximum earned income for Universal Credit claimants to receive council tax support will be £1264.99 net per month for 2018/19 (**This taper was decided as no one is currently entitled to Council Tax Support where their income is more than £1264.99 per month**)
 - Care leavers up to the age of 25 will be added to the existing protected groups
 - Administrative changes set out in paragraph 6.3 be incorporated into the scheme to improve service delivery
- B. Pursuant to this report (see Appendix D for full detail) and in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of the Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012, the amount calculated by the London Borough of Enfield as its Council Tax Base for 2018/19 shall be 96,005 Band D equivalents.
- C. Agree the Department for Communities and Local Government NNDR1 Business Rate base return for 2018/19 (Appendix E).
- D. Agree the amendment to the discretionary rate relief scheme as set out at 2.2 of Appendix E
- E. Delegate authority to the Executive Director of Finance, Resources and Customer Services, in liaison with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Efficiency, to agree minor amendments to the 2017-19 scheme and to agree the 2019-21 scheme at the appropriate time.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 In 2012 the Government announced that as part of a series of welfare reforms, the national Council Tax Benefit scheme was to be abolished and replaced with local schemes. At the time, funding for the replacement local schemes was reduced by 10% and Enfield faced a £5m shortfall in funding if it continued to follow the previous national policy.
- 3.2 Enfield consulted widely on a proposed local scheme and in January 2013 approved a scheme which saw pensioners and war widows protected from any change, and working age claimants seeing a 19.5% reduction in support. The Scheme was based on the principle of a fully-funded scheme so that minimum contributions are set at a level to cover the costs of the scheme only and council tax payers are not asked to contribute to the costs. At the same time, Council agreed changes to exemptions and discounts to Council Tax which saw the discount for empty and refurbished homes reduced to one month, no discount given for second homes and the introduction of a new empty homes premium of 150% of Council Tax for homes left empty for more than two years (the maximum allowed).
- 3.3 Every year the Council is obliged to consider whether to revise or replace its local Council Tax Support Scheme. As a result of the consultation and Equalities Impact Assessment for the 2014/15 scheme, the Council increased the range of protected groups further to include foster carers registered with the Council, people in receipt of Carers Allowance and people in receipt of higher rate disability benefits (Higher Rate Disability Living Allowance, Higher Rate Personal Independence Payments and the support component of Employment Support Allowance).
- 3.4 During 2017/18 the Government has included Enfield Council in the roll out of Universal Credit full service. The recommended council tax support scheme for 2018/19 takes into account the effect of the roll out of Universal Credit and ensures the scheme remains affordable while at the same time seeks to protect vulnerable council taxpayers.
- 3.5 The Council has to agree a Local Council Tax Support Scheme each year. Next year's scheme has to be agreed by 11 March 2018 or the Government's default scheme will be applied which is likely to cost the Council over £9m per year.

4. REVIEW OF THE OPERATION OF THE COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME TO DATE

- 4.1 Collection of Council Tax has been monitored closely and additional support provided. The Council has always recognised that by providing a range of payment options, as well as advice to customers, overall collection rates improve. Claimants receiving Council Tax Support were given the opportunity

to pay in weekly instalments and wherever possible the Council is seeking to agree payment arrangement plans or attachments of earnings/benefits.

- 4.2 The projected Council Tax base income levels for Council Tax Support cases were exceeded in the first year of the scheme. The Council achieved the overall Council Tax collection rate of 97.33% for 2015/16, an increase of 0.46%. This was based on overall collection rates of 85% and 98% for Council Tax Support and non-Council Tax Support payers respectively.
- 4.3 In recognition of the difficulties faced by local households, the Council introduced and has maintained a discretionary Council Tax Hardship Scheme. Households facing exceptional financial hardship can apply to the scheme and receive help with their Council Tax. Payment from the Council Tax Hardship Scheme this year will exceed £100,000. **There is a potential increase in funds available, up to £500,000, from the Business Rates retention system which may assist with the funding of this scheme.** The Council Tax Hardship Scheme is called upon over time not simply within the current financial year of the scheme.
- 4.4 A key principle of the Council Tax Support scheme agreed by Council was that it is a “fully funded scheme” by Government grant where council taxpayers are not asked to pay more to meet the Government’s funding shortfall. Similarly the minimum contribution is set at a level to cover the costs of the scheme only and not to provide additional income. On the basis of the Council Taxbase it was calculated in 2013/14 that working age benefit recipients would need to pay an additional 19.5% to fully fund the shortfall. The government has since incorporated the funding for council tax support into general government funding which has been subject to significant reductions.
- 4.5 Between 2014/15 and 2016/17 the Council’s core funding (excluding schools grant and public health) reduced by 20% and between 2015/16 and 2016/17 the funding has reduced by a further 7.5%. The maximum council tax support for working age claimants not included in a protected group is 26.5%. It is not proposed to change this percentage for 2018/19 as it is estimated that the overall cost of the scheme will reduce due to the above inflation increase in pensions and a projected reduction in the overall numbers claiming.

5. CONSULTATION ON THE 2018/19 PROPOSED SCHEME

- 5.1 The Council consulted on the proposed Local Council Tax Support Scheme for 2018/19. This closed on 31st October 2017
- 5.2 The consultation asked people a series of questions summarised below and is set out in more detail in Appendix C. In summary:
- 71% believe that working age households who have the ability to work should have to pay something towards their Council Tax each year irrespective of earnings.

- 57% agree that Single Care leavers under 25 should be a new protected group
- 62% agree that the Council should have a simpler claims and administration process for those receiving Universal Credit
- 53% agree that people receiving Universal Credit should not be awarded Council Tax Support if their Earned income is £1265 or more per month

5.3 The Greater London Authority responded to the Council's pre consultation notification on the 31st October 2017. In summary the GLA is happy to endorse the broad approach taken by Enfield and commented that some of the changes would bring the Borough's Council Tax Support scheme into line with several other schemes in London and would help to ensure that the increased cost of the scheme does not have to be passed on to more vulnerable residents.

5.4 The GLA encouraged the Council to ensure that:

- Pensioners see no change in their current level of awards whether they are existing or new claimants;
- They consider extending support or protection to other vulnerable groups; and
- Local schemes should support work incentives and, in particular, avoid disincentives to move into work

5.5 Enfield's council tax support scheme includes protection for pensioners and vulnerable groups and maintains a tapered reduction for claimants whose income increase. Allowances and applicable amounts are uprated each year as part of the local scheme agreed previously. Working claimants receiving Universal Credit are included within next year's council tax support scheme.

6. PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE SCHEME FOR 2018/19

6.1 Protected groups remain the same as the 2017/18 scheme except for the additional protected category for care leavers aged under 25 years old which is recommended for the 2018/19 scheme.

6.2 The minimum contribution for working age households not in a protected group will remain at 26.5% for 2018/19.

6.3 Premium and personal allowances shown in the council tax support scheme have been uprated in accordance with the social security/housing benefit rates that will apply from April 2018 and aligned with Department of Work and Pension categories to ensure consistency except where specifically changed by the council (e.g. high rate non dependant deduction). In addition backdating of claims will be extended to up to 12 months from the date of claim where good cause can be demonstrated and council tax support will be allowed to be paid on two homes in cases of domestic violence.

- 6.7 The *Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Prescribed Requirements) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2017/1305* have been incorporated in the 2018/19 local council tax support scheme.

7. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 7.1 The Council has considered the alternative option of maintaining the current council tax support scheme for Universal Credit cases but as Universal Credit includes working tax credit the range of income levels within the Universal Credit award would increase the cost of the council tax support scheme considerably.

8. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 The recommendations contained in this report follow an assessment of options, experience of operating the scheme to date, the Equality Impact Assessment and the consultation. The recommended changes introduced in 2014 for defined protected groups and the further extension of care leavers under the Equality Impact Assessment support the Council's aims to build strong, stable communities and are recommended to be continued next year.

9. COMMENTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE, RESOURCES AND CUSTOMER SERVICES AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS

9.1 Financial implications

The agreed Council and Business Rate Tax Bases will be built into the 2018/19 budget and Council Tax to be recommended to Council on 21st February 2018. The cost of the Council Tax Support Scheme for 2018/19 is expected to be broadly in line with the cost of last year's scheme.

9.2 Legal implications

- 9.2.1 The Welfare Reform Act 2012 provided for the abolition of Council Tax Benefit (CTB). Provisions for the localisation of Council Tax support were included in the Local Government Finance Act 2012. Since 1 April 2013 local authorities in England have been responsible for administering their own Council Tax Reduction Schemes subject to the Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Prescribed Requirements) (England) Regulations 2012 (SI 2012/2885). Some authorities chose to adopt the default scheme provided for in the Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Prescribed Requirements and Default Scheme) (England) Regulations 2012 (SI 2012/2886). Each year, after a Council Tax Reduction Scheme (Council Tax Support Scheme) has been implemented, the Council must consider whether to revise or replace its scheme. Any revision or replacement to the scheme must be made by 11 March, preceding the financial year in which the revision or replacement is to have effect. The Secretary of State prescribed a default scheme which took effect from April 2013 where a billing authority failed to make a scheme on or before 31 January. This default scheme retains the criteria and allowances

previously in place for CTB (Council Tax Benefit). Authorities can revise or replace their schemes in preparation for the start of each financial year. They may not make in-year revisions. Transitional arrangements must be put in place where revisions result in a reduction or removal of assistance for a class or classes of persons.

9.2.2 If any changes are suggested to the Council Tax Support Scheme the Council must run a consultation with stakeholders including residents. The Council has run a consultation on the proposed Council Tax Support Scheme for 2018/2019

9.2.3 The consultation document sets out that the council may decide to change the scheme on the basis of the consultation, and that figures could change as a result of government spending policy, future announcements on government funding and changes in the Council's tax base (properties eligible to pay council tax).

In certain circumstances, it may be reasonable and fair to re-consult where there is a fundamental change to the issue, once the consultation is underway or has closed.

9.2.4 The Council Tax base(Appendix D) has been written in accordance with The Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992 (S.I. 1992 No. 612) which sets out the calculations which are required by the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended by the Local Government Act 2003 .

9.2.5 So far as the Business Rate discretionary relief scheme (Appendix E) is concerned the government is not changing the legislation around transitional relief (The Non-Domestic Rating (Chargeable Amounts) (England) Regulations 2016). Instead the government will, in line with the eligibility criteria for the scheme, reimburse billing authorities that use their discretionary relief powers (under S47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988, as amended by the Localism Act 2011) to grant relief.

9.3 Property Implications

None.

9.4 Key Risks

9.4.1 The key risks relate to operational, financial and reputational concerns. There is an operational risk of failure to collect the estimated amount, e.g. if any category of exemption has not been specified and following implementation of the scheme the Council is unwilling to pursue recovery action in particular cases of default. The operational risks are mitigated by assisting payers with supportive payment arrangements and by applying fairly, consistently and promptly the recovery process.

9.4.2 The financial risk is of insufficient collection rates and of Universal Credit caseload rises being beyond those anticipated in calculating the Local

Scheme costs and deductions required from support. In the initial year of the scheme there was a risk that collection rates may be over or under stated. The Council has adjusted anticipated ultimate collection rates in the scheme for 2018/19 based on experience to date and the impact of increase in contribution rates. Variation between the estimated and actual collection rates and caseload levels will result in either a deficit (or surplus) on the Collection Fund in future years. The current Medium Term Financial Plan assumes no variation to current assumptions. **The cost of the 18/19 scheme will be monitored, paying particular attention to those on Universal Credit with a net Earned Income up to £1264.99 per month. Options to introduce more earned income bands, for those getting Universal Credit, to attract different maximum contribution rates will be considered in the 19/20 scheme.**

- 9.4.3 The reputational risk is of failure to make proper provision for people on low income losing some of the current level of support. The reason for this scheme arises from a Government decision to replace the existing national scheme with local schemes with reduced grant funding and clearly considerable help will need to be available to payers facing increased Council Tax bills as a result of the change in scheme. Conversely, failure to properly pursue payment of Council Tax due in such cases would create inequality of treatment with other Council Taxpayers many of which will have income levels only marginally above the limit for obtaining Council Tax Support.

10. IMPACT ON COUNCIL PRIORITIES

10.1 Fairness for All

The draft Local Scheme retains protection for pensioners, war widows, carers and those with severe disabilities. The draft scheme attempts to strike a fair balance between the interest of Council Tax Support recipients and those taxpayers who do not receive help with their Council Tax payments. The Council Tax Hardship Scheme provides support for those households facing exceptional financial hardship.

10.2 Growth and Sustainability

One of the drivers for the Welfare Reform programme of the Government is increasing employment and the overall level of demand for Council Tax support will depend to a considerable extent on the ability of local unemployed residents to find paid work and for those in employment to find better paid work.

The draft Local Scheme is funded by passing on the cost of reductions in full in the level of support offered to Council taxpayers. Reductions in disposable income may have an adverse impact in the local economy.

10.3 Strong Communities

The consultation exercise has shown that, as a principle, there is strong support for some payment to be made by all Council Taxpayers whether or not receiving Council Tax Support. However, combined with other welfare reform measures, there is the potential for an increase in the number of families and individuals in the borough living in poverty.

11. EQUALITIES IMPACT

The Equalities Impact Assessment for the amended scheme is attached as Appendix B. The recommendations contained in this report retain financial support for protected groups.

12. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

None.

13. PUBLIC HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

This change affects those already struggling due to the wider Government welfare changes. The implications will depend upon the success of residents gaining employment or, for those in low paid employment, obtaining better paid employment. Supporting people facing hardship and stress will be key to promoting the ability of families to provide healthy food, to pay bills and to promote sound mental health.

APPENDICES

Appendix A – Summary of Technical Changes to the Council Tax Support Scheme since 2013

Appendix B – Equalities Impact Assessment

Appendix C – Consultation results

Appendix D – Council tax base

Appendix E – Business rate base (TO FOLLOW)

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Enfield Council

Council Tax Support Scheme

Summary of changes to the default scheme since 2013/14

Appendix A to Council report

31st January 2018

Council tax support scheme changes since 2012/13 Council Tax Benefit Default Scheme

2013/14

Financial Year	Date Scheme agreed	The Council Tax Reduction Default Scheme	Second Adult Rebate	High rate non dependant deductions	Introduction of an end calculation deduction	Creation of Local Hardship Fund	Introduction of exempt categories from the 80.5% maximum award
2013-14	Council 30th January 2013	Si 2012 No. 2886 and Si 2012 No. 3085	2AR abolished for working age claimants	Increasing top rate deduction from £9.90 to £20.50 per week for non-dependants earning over £401 per week	19.50%	Hardship fund £836,000	Protects working age war widows from the reduction

2014/15

Financial Year	Date Scheme agreed	Extension of exempt categories from the 80.5% maximum award				Income uprating
2014-15	Council 29th January 2014	Claimants in receipt of Carers allowance	High rate Disability Living Allowance (Mobility and Care Component)	Enhanced Personal Independence Payments (Daily Living and Mobility component)	Enfield Council recruited, trained and supported foster carers	Applied in accordance with uprating schedule

2015/16

Financial Year	Date Scheme agreed	Income uprating	Statutory amendment for EEA Nationals	Administrative amendment
2015-16	Council 28th January 2015	Applied in accordance with uprating schedule Si 2014 No 3312	EEA Nationals who are not currently entitled to HB are also not entitled to CTS	Where Housing Benefit is already in payment, a new application for CTS is no longer required following a change in circumstances. The existing claim for HB may be used for both schemes.

2016/17

Financial Year	Date Scheme agreed	Income uprating	Savings threshold
2016-17	Council 27th January 2016	Applied in accordance with uprating schedule	Reduction in savings threshold from for working age claimants

2017/18

Financial Year	Date Scheme agreed	Prescribed regulations - Pensioners Income range change for non-dependants	Prescribed regulations - Pensioners temporary absence
2017-18	Council 25th January 2017	The HB uprating Circular A12/2016 quotes DWP uprating of the non-dependant deductions rates based on a 2.5% which the DWP used. DCLG now uprates the non-dependant deductions with the CPI figures (1%). For HB – the gross income range is £200 to £258.99 and £259 to £345.99. For cts (pensioners) the prescribed regulations quote a new range of £196.95 to £338	Temporary absence for pensioners now reduced to 4 weeks to mirror HB change last year. Doesn't apply to working age claims - still 13 weeks

Appendix B

Enfield Council Predictive Equality Impact Assessment/Analysis

Department:	FRCS	Service:	Assessment Hub
Title of decision:	Council Tax Support Scheme 2018/19	Date completed:	7 January 2018
Author:	Geoff Waterton	Contact details:	Geoff.waterton@enfield.gov.uk

1 Type of change being proposed: (please tick)

Service delivery change/ new service/cut in service		Policy change or new policy	x	Grants and commissioning		Budget change	
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2 Describe the change, why it is needed, what is the objective of the change and what is the possible impact of the change:

The Council is obliged to set a local Council Tax Reduction Scheme every year following the abolition of the national Council Tax Benefit system in 2013. The Council introduced a local Council Tax Support Scheme to provide financial assistance for low income households in paying their Council Tax. Since 2013, the Council has reviewed the scheme every year and is now deciding on the scheme for 2018/19.

Following previous Equality Impact Assessments and consultations, the Council introduced a range of protected groups in the scheme that remain entitled to a maximum award of 100%. These are: pensioners, war widows, foster carers registered with the Council, people in receipt of Carers Allowance and people in receipt of higher rate disability benefits (Higher Rate Disability Living Allowance, Higher Rate Personal Independence Payments and the support component of Employment Support Allowance). All other working age households are expected to pay a minimum contribution towards Council Tax. A discretionary Hardship Scheme was introduced to provide support to those households that get into severe financial hardship.

The scheme proposed for 2018/19 would see the range of protected groups increased to include care leavers up to 25 years old. The minimum contribution for working age households not in a protected group remains at 26.5%. A new scheme for claimants receiving Universal Credit (UC) has been proposed which will allow an automatic award of council tax support in cases of UC if the net earned income is less than £1,265 per month. This will simplify applications and help maintain take up of the scheme.

In recognition of the potential impact for some households, the Council is considering adding funding to the current Council Tax Hardship Scheme.

3 Do you carry out equalities monitoring of your service? If No please state why?

Yes although religious belief, sexual orientation and gender reassignment are not captured as they are not relevant to the assessment or eligibility criteria of the scheme

4. Equalities Impact

Indicate Yes, No or Not Known for each group

	Disability	Gender	Age	Race	Religion & Belief	Sexual Orientation	Gender reassignment	Pregnancy & Maternity	Marriage & Civil Partnerships
1. Does equalities monitoring of your service show people from the following groups benefit from your service? (recipients of the service, policy or budget, and the proposed change)	Y	Y	Y	Y	n/a	n/a	Na/	Y	Y
2. Does the service or policy contribute to eliminating discrimination, promote equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between different groups in the community?	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
3. Could the proposal discriminate, directly or indirectly these groups?	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
4. Could this proposal affect access to your service by different groups in the community?	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
5. Could this proposal affect access to <u>information</u> about your service by different groups in the community?	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
6. Could the proposal have an adverse impact on relations between different groups?	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N

If Yes answered to questions 3-6 above – please describe the impact of the change (including any positive impact on equalities) and what the service will be doing to reduce the negative impact it will have.

The Scheme has been designed to be fair to all whilst ensuring that those facing the greatest risk are prioritised. The proposed scheme includes protection for older people, carers, disabled working adults and foster carers who do not have the same opportunities as other working age households to gain employment and increase their income. Income uprating maintains the level of support in real terms. The discretionary Hardship Scheme will ensure those households facing genuine financial hardship can access support.

5. Tackling Socio-economic inequality

Indicate Yes, No or Not Known for each group

	Communities living in deprived wards/areas	People not in employment, education or training	People with low academic qualifications	People living in social housing	Lone parents	People on low incomes	People in poor health	Any other socio-economic factor Please state;
Will the proposal specifically impact on communities disadvantaged through the following socio-economic factors?	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	N
Does the service or policy contribute to eliminating discrimination, promote equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between different groups in the community?	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Could this proposal affect access to your service by different groups in the community?	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N

If Yes answered above – please describe the impact (including any positive impact on social economic inequality) and any mitigation if applicable.

Working age households not in a protected group who are on low incomes and or out of work will be required to pay a higher contribution to their Council Tax per annum. The Council has introduced a range of flexible payment arrangements for Council Tax Support recipients and has a discretionary Hardship Scheme for those households that face severe financial hardship. The Council is considering increasing the Hardship Scheme reserve for 2018/19.

6. Review

How and when will you monitor and review the effects of this proposal?

The Council is legally required to review its scheme annually and consider if any revisions are necessary.

Appendix B

Enfield Council Predictive Equality Impact Assessment/Analysis

Action plan template for proposed changes to service, policy or budget

Title of decision:...Council Tax Support Scheme 2018/19.....

Team: Assessment Hub..... Department:...FRCS.....

Service manager:...Geoff Waterton... ..

Identified Issue	Action Required	Lead Officer	Timescale/ By When	Costs	Review Date/ Comments
Severe hardship	Monitor debts and take-up of Council Tax Hardship Scheme	Geoff Waterton	Ongoing	none	
Impact of the scheme on protected groups	Review impact of the scheme on increase of care leavers to protected groups	Geoff Waterton	December 2018	none	
Communicate change in scheme to customers and key stakeholders	Amend marketing and web content, issue press release	Geoff Waterton	On going	Within resources	

Please insert additional rows if needed

Date to be Reviewed: ...December 2018.....

APPROVAL BY THE RELEVANT ASSISTANT DIRECTOR - Sally McTernan..... SIGNATURE.....

This form should be emailed to joanne.stacey@enfield.gov.uk and be appended to any decision report that follows.

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Enfield Council

Council tax support consultation 2018/19.

Appendix C to Cabinet Report – 24th January 2018

Council Tax Support Consultation

This report was generated on 09/11/17. Overall 45 respondents completed this questionnaire. The report has been filtered to show the responses for 'All Respondents'.

The following charts are restricted to the top 12 codes. Lists are restricted to the most recent 100 rows.

Yes (32) – 71%
 No (10) – 22 %
 Don't know (3) – 7%

Please tell us why:

Upper Limit is too high. Reduce it by a few percent and use the additional Council Tax to pay for improvements to Council Services.

Too much for those on low income to afford

Because I have to work hard to pay mine so why are others not having to do the same
 Looking at the example, the payment of £392.53 is not enough. I assume other groups are paying "more" to compensate.

I think they should pay more

I have no idea how this number was calculated and don't have any information about why it is the optimal level.

I can barley afford it

Can people even afford to pay 26.5%?

White British people are struggling to manage, allow them some reprieve by paying their council tax until they're in work.

Should be reduced

Too many people benefit. More people should pay at least 50%.

People who receive High Rate Disability Living Allowance or Enhanced rate of Personal Independent Payments (received by Claimant, Partner or dependent Children)

Yes (34) – 76%
 No (10) – 22%
 Dont' know (1) – 2%

People who receive Carers Allowance

Yes (31) – 69%
 No (12) – 27%
 Dont' know (2) – 4%

People who receive the Support Component of Employment Support Allowance

Yes (23) - 51%
No (13) - 29%
Dont' know (9) - 20%

Single Care Leavers under 25 as a new proposed protected group

Yes (25) - 57%
No (13) - 30%
Dont' know (6) - 14%

People who are a Foster Carer

Yes (22) - 49%
No (17) - 38%
Dont' know (6) - 13%

War Widows or War Pensioners

Yes (33) - 77%
No (8) - 19%
Dont' know (2) - 5%

Please comment if you have any comments about the Protected Groups:

People who receive High Rate Disability Living Allowance or Enhanced rate of Personal Independent

Payments protected group should not include dependent children. Having a disabled child should not

preclude the parents from working, or give them the right to this council tax support automatically.

Those receiving carers it should be about the whole family income

Care leavers getting assistance is a good idea

No one should get 100% council tax support. If you give people something for free you will not

appreciate it. In this case how can someone be part of a community if they don't contribute to the

upkeep of the community ? Council Tax should be lowered - The D band should be around 1000,

and the 100% Tax support should be lowered. Have a tiered

Single care leavers may get a full time job after leaving care - they may be able to pay Council Tax in

full. Giving them "protected status" needs looking into. Fosters carers do receive an allowance from

the council. They may also care for children who are at school most of the day, therefore they may be

in employment when children/young pers

Should also take into account worker's on low hours that have disability but are still working and don't

receive any disability benefit also people that have received pensions early due to medical grounds

and are still on low pay

its hard trying to keep up to date

Single Care Leaver under the age of 21 seems reasonable. 25 is too much.

Means test them all. There are thousands of people taking the piss out of benefits allowances.

This entirely depends on individual financial circumstances e.g if they are home owners and means testing.

Do you think it's a good idea to have a simpler claims and administration process for those receiving Universal Credit?

Yes (28)

No (10)

Dont' know (7)

22%

16%

62%

To what extent do you agree or disagree that people receiving Universal Credit will not be eligible for Council Tax Support if their net earned income is more than £1265 per month?

(This is the maximum amount you can earn and still qualify for support)

Strongly Agree (15)

Agree (9)

Neither agree nor disagree (6)

Disagree (6)

Strongly disagree (5)

Don't know (4)

33%

20%

11%

9%

13%

13%

Please comment if you feel the Council's proposed Council Tax Support Scheme will affect particular groups of people more than others, and if so, how we may address the impact:

Disabled people who work

Lower the council tax and get rid of 100% tax support.

Using the same processes for UC when dealing with CTB is sensible (saving tax payers money)

I feel that they should be offered support also, and they should be means tested as you don't know

there circumstances.

Rent is increasing every month, it will be best to consider those earning over £1500 and where their

rent could be costing that same amount.

All groups should contribute some amount to pay for their Council Tax.

How will the process be simpler? Will you apply any behavioural science to the design?

i think some people deserve full on help

Regarding Universal Credit, as many benefits as possible should be amalgamated into this to reduce

the overall administration of govts and to reduce the paperwork for claimants. Surely all councils can come together and agree on the necessary information to assess a council tax support claimant. This information should then be included on all Universal Credit applications (if it isn't already), and each council should then be able to make a relatively quick decision for each claimant as the information will be readily available.

You must look at the size of the family, the gap between the LHA and actual rent. Setting an arbitrary limit, without the context of the family circumstances will mean some people will suffer £1265 a month is nothing. We'd like to see some of the over paid executives at enfield council survive on that!!!!

Simpler claims system is acceptable for some however too many people are claiming.

Please provide any additional comments, including any alternative options you would

like us to consider:

Senior citizens over 80 years old should get a reduction of there council Tax

If you hadn't ruined local businesses by putting pointless cycle lanes in you would have a- saved

money to support the vulnerable through this scheme instead and b - not ruined local business

meaning you could collect more business rates. When are you going to introduce 2 hours free parking

in the town so the shops there can compete with the a10? Or is church street just going to become a

cycle lane used by 1 cyclist an hour? Well done for proposing to support care leavers but as someone

who works in the family court system I can tell you that you are failing these young people every day

as your social care& child protection is appalling. You must know about barnets recent ofsted & they

are at least double as good as you so I look forward to yours. You can't even calculate my council tax

correctly each year & then you want me to give you direct debit authority- you are just an appalling

failure of a council all round

As a resident of Enfield for over 30 years. I feel that Enfield Council are not supportive or even

compassionate to residents of Enfield. Therefore I appreciate that they are consulting with residents

on how they feel of the current Council tax system, currently there is NO current support system if you

can not make the payment the council take you straight to court, irrespective of any financial circumstance.

How about introducing a local tax for tourist and visitors a small charge but would help with the

Council's finances. Persons owning long term empty residential properties in the Enfield Borough

should pay double the appropriate council tax.

Stop punishing those who are disabled. You are supposed to be a Labour council. Seems you don't

care about anybody. You only want your pay and pensions supported. You don't care about the people of Enfield at all.

Council_Tax_Support_2017
Council Tax Reduction Scheme
Page:5
Snap snapsurveys.com

Please provide any additional comments, including any alternative options you would

like us to consider:

Well i think some people deserve full on help im a single mother im 25 years old an am now in debt with council tax as had to use the money on my child.. some of us try so hard to stay up to date but its so easy to fall behind. talkin from experiance not all of us choose to be single an gain no help Those that are working but unfortunately not earning enough should be supported. Those that are higher earners or living in the highest council tax bands should have a higher levy to subsidise the low paid. I fit into both the higher earner and higher council tax band groups, and I would be happy to contribute more provided that it subsidised those who are working hard but struggling. I know that there has been a recent increase in council tax, but why can't there be another increase for those living in the top 2 or 3 council tax bands? And/or remove the single occupancy discount for those in the highest council tax bands. This will not affect renters as they are extremely unlikely to rent a multiple bedroomed house for 1 person (and if they can afford to do so then they should not receive a discount anyway). It will affect homeowners, which is fair because even if a homeowner's income is low, their assets are by definition high in these council tax groups. Please find a way of incentivising and protecting those people who are working, on a low income, where there is a gap between the local housing allowance and actual rent. Stop pushing people into arrears as a result of the gap in LHA and only insisting to help (DHP) when they are in arrears and at risk of eviction. This approach while it helps to manage a limited resource - causes major problems for other services where they have to pick up the pieces - mental health, emergency accommodation, social services and the list goes on Stop employing over paid consultants and external organisations to carry out ridiculous surveys on how happy or not staff are. Hundreds of people are being made redundant and you're still wasting money. What the hell is going on?!

Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

Yes (-)

No (45) 100%

Do you pay Council Tax to Enfield Council?

Yes (37)

No (8)

82%

18%

Are you currently receiving Council Tax Support in Enfield?

Yes (10)

No (35) 78%

22%

In which postal district do you live?

EN1 (8)

EN2 (11)

EN3 (4)

EN4 (-)

N9 (7)

N11 (2)

N13 (1)

N14 (2)

N18 (1)

N21 (3)

Prefer not to say (3)

Other (3)

9%

7%

24%

18%

2%

2%

4%

4%

16%

7%

7%

Are your day-to-day activities limited because of a health problem or disability which has lasted, or is expected to last, at least 12 months?

Yes, limited a lot (2)

Yes, limited a little (5)

No (32)

Prefer not to say (4)

5%

12%

74%

9%

How would you describe your ethnic origin?

British (24)

Prefer not to say (8)

Other (4)

Irish (3)

Greek Cypriot (1)

Italian (1)

Polish (1)

White and Black African (1)

Caribbean (1)

Sri Lankan (1)

Greek (-)

Turkish (-)

53%

18%

9%

7%

2%

2%

2%

2%

2%

2%

If 'other', please specify:

Mixed other

Mauritian

WHITE BRITISH

Which of these activities best describes what you are doing at present?

4%

16%

4%

7%

7%

2%

7%

42%

2%

9%

Do you have parenting responsibilities?

Yes (17)

No (25)

Prefer not to say (3)

38%

56%

7%

How would you describe your relationship status?

Living alone (16)

Married (16)

Living as a couple (4)

Civil Partnership (-)

Prefer not to say (5)

Other (4) 9%

If 'other', please specify:

living in a house share

WIDOWER

Separate

Single Mother with an unemployed adult Son just out of Uni.

Which of the following organisations do you represent?

Voluntary organisation (-)

Housing association (-)
Landlord (-)
Other (-)

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Enfield Council

Council Taxbase

2018/19.

Appendix D to Cabinet Report – 24th January 2018

Introduction

The council tax base is calculated in accordance with The Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012. The tax base is expressed in terms of “Band D Equivalents” (i.e. a property in Band A is equivalent to 2/3rds of a Band D property and a property in Band H is 2 Band D Equivalents). A table showing the calculation of the tax base is given below. The figures are based upon information in existing Council Tax records with adjustments to take into account the effect of estimated changes between now and March 2019.

The collection percentage used in the calculation of the tax base in previous years is as follows: -

Years	Collection Percentage
1993/95	95%
1995/97	95.5%
1997/01	97%
2001/02	97.5%
2002/04	97.75%
2004/13	98%
2013/18	96.79%
2018/19	97.06%

The estimated collection percentage is based upon experience to date and an estimate for collection of council tax from taxpayers affected by the reduction in benefit support. On present estimates it is recommended that the overall collection percentage for 2018/19 is 97.06% reflecting the higher loss provision required for the increase tax income relating to the Council Tax Support scheme.

Any under or over achievement of the collection rate including prior years' arrears will be reflected in the overall position on the Council's Collection Fund and potentially has an impact on the revenue budget in future years. These calculations and assumptions result in a Band D Equivalent Tax Base for 2018/19 of **96,005** properties, an increase of 962. The main changes between the 2017/18 and 2018/19 tax bases are summarised in the following table.

Council Tax Base Movements 2017/18 to 2018/19	Band D Equivalents
2017/18 Tax Base	95,043
2018/19 Changes:	
1. Increase in properties	489
2. Council Tax Support Scheme changes	(250)
3. Discounts, Exemptions & Empty Home Premium	723
2018/19 Tax Base	96,005

The Council must decide the tax base by the 31st January 2018 prior to setting the council tax for 2018/19.

Recommendation

Pursuant to this report and in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of the Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012, the amount calculated by the London Borough of Enfield as its Council Tax Base for 2018/19 shall be **96,005** Band D equivalents.

COUNCIL TAX BASE 2018/2019
VALUATION BANDING - NUMBER OF PROPERTIES

	@	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	TOTAL
DWELLINGS	0	5,192	11,667	33,861	36,503	21,081	9,200	5,869	908	124,281
LESS EXEMPTIONS	0	101	268	414	353	242	77	42	9	1,506
DISABLED RELIEF - LESS		1	10	87	168	174	87	70	27	624
DISABLED RELIEF - PLUS	1	10	87	168	174	87	70	27		624
CHARGEABLE DWELLINGS	1	5100	11476	33528	36156	20752	9106	5784	872	122,775
DISCOUNTS - (25%)	0	(754)	(1,671)	(3,476)	(2,676)	(1,190)	(439)	(187)	(22)	(10,415)
DISCOUNTS - (50%)	0	(2)	(3)	(16)	(25)	(15)	(16)	(21)	(9)	(106)
DISCOUNTS - LCTS @73.5%	(1)	(1,702)	(3,330)	(7,054)	(5,878)	(2,125)	(438)	(121)	(2)	(20,652)
CHARGEABLE PROPERTIES AFTER DISCOUNT	0	2,642	6,472	22,982	27,577	17,422	8,213	5,455	839	91,602
EMPTY HOMES PREMIUM (+50%)	0	60	55	89	94	37	13	17	6	371
		30	28	45	47	19	7	9	3	186
NET CHARGEABLE DWELLINGS	0	2,672	6,499	23,026	27,624	17,441	8,219	5,464	842	91,788
WEIGHTINGS	5/9	6/9	7/9	8/9	9/9	11/9	13/9	15/9	18/9	0
BAND 'D' EQUIVALENTS	0	1,781	5,055	20,468	27,624	21,316	11,872	9,107	1,684	98,908
EFFECTIVE COLLECTION RATE	97.07%									
NET BAND D AFTER COLLECTION RATE ADJUSTMENT										96,005
NET COUNCIL TAX BASE 2018/19										96,005
NET COUNCIL TAX BASE 2017/18										95,043
DIFFERENCE (BAND D)										962

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2017/2018 REPORT NO.112**MEETING TITLE AND DATE:**

Cabinet – 20 December 2017

Council – 31 January 2018

REPORT OF:

Executive Director of Children's Services

Contact officer and telephone number:

Grant Landon 020 8379 8337

E-mail: grant.landon@enfield.gov.uk**Agenda – Part 1****Item: 6****Subject: Enfield Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report****Wards: All****1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

2016-2017 has been another very busy year for the Safeguarding Children Board.

Overall it has been a very positive year despite a number of changes and challenges.

Importantly there remains a very strong commitment to the board and its activity from all its member agencies and organisations. This is evidenced both from the strong collaborative ethos and commitment to working together as well as by the single agency safeguarding activity undertaken by all members which is detailed in the Statements from ESCB partner agencies section in the report.

Effective responses to specific safeguarding concerns**Child Sexual Exploitation / Missing / Trafficking**

There has again been much activity and positive progress in this important area in 2016/17. The numbers of young people who have been identified as victims of CSE has remained stable after an increase in previous years whilst the ratio of boys to girls who have been identified has increased slightly reflecting a growing awareness that the issue can also affect boys. There have been positive steps in support young people who go Missing through the work of the Missing Children Risk management Group which brings together professionals to plan effective support for vulnerable young people. The issue of Trafficking has had an increased focus as understanding and awareness of the issues has grown.

An important development for the ESCB has been the establishment of a new subcommittee; the Vulnerable Young People (VYP) subcommittee which met for the first time toward the end of the year. The VYP replaces the Trafficking, Sexual Exploitation and Missing (TSEM).

Domestic Abuse / Violence Against Women & Girls (VAWG)

The board has continued to monitor and support activity related to VAWG throughout 2016/17. Iterations of the new Domestic Abuse strategy have been presented to the board on three occasions and board members have offered advice, direction and guidance. In early 2016 the new Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI) framework was introduced. The purpose of this framework is to understand how effectively agencies in a local area are able to respond to specific issues. From September 2016 to March 2017 the theme was children living with Domestic Abuse. Whilst

Enfield was not inspected there was much activity across the partnership to map, understand and enhance our response to Domestic Abuse in Enfield. There is more details about work undertaken in this area in the Quality Assurance of the report

Radicalisation and Prevent

The board has continued to work closely with the Prevent service in the Community Safety Unit to ensure there is a high level of understanding of issues relating to Radicalisation and the response to it in Enfield. A key move has been incorporating a focus on Radicalisation as part of the new Vulnerable Young People subcommittee, recognising that this is one of many potential challenges and issues that young people in Enfield face.

Early Help

The board has closely monitored the development of the Enfield Family Resilience Strategy which is the basis for the local response to Early Help. Board members have offered scrutiny, challenge and direction as the strategy has developed. The ethos of the strategy is that we want all our children to be safe, confident and happy, with opportunities to achieve through learning and reach their full potential as they become adults.

Effective safeguarding structures & systems

As referenced above there have been some changes to the way the ESCB is structured both in response to national changes (the Wood Report and Children & Social Work Act) and a local shift in the way we are trying to address the challenges and issues experienced by young people in a consistent and joined up way (Vulnerable Young People subcommittee.)

Our Quality Assurance subcommittee continues to monitor data relating to safeguarding across the partnership and to oversee audits on a range of relevant topics. The group has pushed forward our Section 11 / Section 175 structure and programme this year to ensure we have the widest possible understanding of safeguarding activity across all agencies including in our schools. We have conducted a range of 'challenge interviews' all of which have concluded with feedback and action plans where required. There is more about activity in the area and view some of the data considered by the QA group in the Quality Assurance section of the report.

The board itself has effectively offered challenge to partner agencies throughout the year and sought assurances that action was taken to ensure children and young people are safeguarded.

Communication & Learning

The Board has continued to lead on and steer the direction of the Signs of Safety across the borough. We began our Signs of Safety implementation journey in the autumn of 2015 and since then a tremendous amount of progress has been made towards fully embedding the model within children's services and among partner agencies in Enfield. Over 800 professionals across the borough have not attend a Signs of Safety training or briefing session and there have many structural and process changes which have helped ensure the model and its principles are a core part of the way we work with children and families across Enfield. There is more about Signs of Safety in the Enfield Children's Social Care section of the report

This year the board has taken the innovative step of merging its Learning and Development subcommittee with that of the Safeguarding Adult Board ensuring consistency, reducing duplication and improving quality. There have been a number of joint ventures including joint Domestic abuse sessions and a joint conference on

Modern Slavery. There has once again been an extensive programme of Safeguarding Training across the partnership, ensuring that all staff have access to good quality training, which helps support sustained improvements across all safeguarding services. Across the year, we once again delivered training and learning sessions to well over 1000 people professionals. There is more on training in the learning and the development section

Conclusion and Challenges for 2016/17

2016/17 has again been another busy year for Enfield Safeguarding Children Board. It was a year that brought considerable uncertainty but we have made sure we have remained focused on our priorities and goals and have maintained an unrelenting focus on supporting our partner agencies and driving improvement and quality.

This report clearly demonstrates that safeguarding activity is being maintained across the partnership in challenging times and the that the ESCB continues to have clear agreement and focus on the strategic priorities and ongoing challenges. Reports from our partners demonstrate that statutory and non-statutory members are consistently working towards the same goals as part of the multi-agency partnership and within their individual agencies.

The Board remains committed to a programme of scrutiny, monitoring and, quality assuring the quality of safeguarding activity across Enfield, and this programme of robust analysis and challenge will continue to ensure that children and young people are kept safe. The Board is proud of its successes but of course there is no room for complacency, the economic situation and organisational change affecting public services in Enfield and across the country continues to be a challenge for the Board. 2017/18 will inevitably bring more change; we are likely to see statutory changes to the way Serious Case Reviews and child death processes and managed. We will ensure we stay abreast of developments and will seek and utilise 'best practice' examples both in these areas and as new safeguarding structures emerge across the country.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

Council to note the progress being made to safeguard children and young people and specifically note this report and the Draft Enfield Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report which is attached as a background paper to this document.

3. PLEASE SEE APPENDIX (FULL REPORT) ATTACHED.

4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

This report is for information.

5. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

Enfield Safeguarding Children Board will require the commitment and support from multiple partners and from colleagues across the Council in order to continue to focus on improvements with the clear aim of reducing harm.

6. COMMENTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE, RESOURCES AND CUSTOMER SERVICES AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS

6.1 Financial Implications

The ESCB is funded by its partner agencies with the London Borough of Enfield being significantly the biggest contributor. In 2016/17 the contribution of Enfield CCG was reduced due to financial challenges experienced by the that organisation

The ESCB managed to spend within budget during the year primarily because there was just one Serious Care Reviews in 2016/17 which is regularly a high area of expenditure for Safeguarding Boards. A majority of the overall budget was spent on staffing costs including the independent chair and the remainder was spent on Serious Case Reviews and Learning & Development.

6.2 Legal Implications

Section 13 of the Children Act 2004 ('the Act') places a duty on every Local Authority to establish a Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB). Section 14 of the Children Act sets out the objective of a LSCB. Section 14A of the Act requires a LSCB to 'prepare and publish a report about safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in its local area' at least once in every 12 month period. The report must be submitted to the local Children's Trust Board. The Local Safeguarding Children Boards Regulations 2006 govern the running of an LSCB. The Government's Statutory Guidance, Working Together to Safeguard Children (2015), gives guidance on the operation of LSCBs.

The proposals set out in this report comply with the above legislation.

6.3 Property Implications

There are no property implications.

7. KEY RISKS

The Enfield Safeguarding Children Board is reliant upon a strong commitment from partners and is financed through contributions from partner agencies. There are risks that that the austere climate may impact upon the financial contributions and reduce the ability to deliver on the key priorities within the business plan. Failure to deliver the business plan would have a detrimental impact upon the Council's reputation.

8. IMPACT ON COUNCIL PRIORITIES

8.1 Fairness for All, Growth and Sustainability and Strong Communities

The work of the ESCB meets all 3 of the council's key aims and the objectives within the Children and Young People's Plan. With particular emphasis and more weighting upon improving services to those children, young people and families that require prevention and intervention from safeguarding services across a broad spectrum from early help to statutory interventions.

9. EQUALITIES IMPACT IMPLICATIONS

Corporate advice has been sought in regard to equalities and an agreement has been reached that an equalities impact assessment is neither relevant nor proportionate for the approval of the Annual report. Safeguarding forms part of the Councils

programme of retrospective equalities impact assessments (EQIA) and this was completed in July 2015. The retrospective EQIA collates equalities monitoring of service users, and consider how the service impacts on disadvantaged, vulnerable and protected characteristic groups in the community. A programme of actions to address adverse impacts are devised and implemented where appropriate throughout the delivery of the project.

10. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

This ESCB has a robust data set and annual audit programme supporting the continuous drive for improvement by the Council and its partners in relation to outcomes for children.

11. HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

12. HR IMPLICATIONS

Enfield Council is committed to applying equalities when recruiting and is proud of a staff group that is represented of its community and the customer they serve. The Council has a number of Policies in place so that all staff members are aware of their rights and the expectations required of them in carrying out their duties. Any misconduct and performance issues are dealt with robustly and all Council employees are required to work within the remits of the Dignity at Work Principles and the Employee Code of Conduct.

13. PUBLIC HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

The ESCB has strong links with the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Director of Public Health is a standing member of the Safeguarding Children Board. The ESCB has promoted and supported a number of public health issues and the Female Genital Mutilation task group, which is chaired by a Consultant in Public Health, has become an established sub-committee of the Health and wellbeing Board.

The ESCB is working closely with the Adult Safeguarding Children Board to further strengthen the partnership working with specific emphasis upon the health areas that are key priorities for both Boards such as Domestic Abuse and Female Genital Mutilation.

The ESCB coordinates local programmes to protect and promote the welfare of children and young people in Enfield and to monitor the effectiveness of those arrangements. Improved outcomes in early life and childhood lead to healthier, successful adults and improve the health of the population. For example: protecting children and young people results in improved population health outcomes by reducing mental health issues, sexually transmitted diseases and other issues e.g. obstetric complications in FGM victims.

The work of the Child Death Overview Committee contributes to reducing infant mortality in the borough by recognising risk factors and acting to prevent such deaths where possible. This increases life expectancy in the borough population.

Background Papers

None.

Appendix

1. Draft Enfield Safeguarding Board Annual Report 2016- 2017

Enfield Safeguarding Children Board

Annual report

2016 – 2017

Enfield
Safeguarding
Children Board
...because safeguarding children
is everybody's business

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Introduction from the chair

As the Independent Chair of Enfield Safeguarding Children's Board (ESCB), my starting point is to thank all of those colleagues right across our partners and agencies for the work done each and every day to keep the children and young people of Enfield as safe as possible. All the agencies (the principle three being the local authority, the metropolitan police and the clinical commissioning health group) work hard together to recognise the risks being experienced and then to reduce them.

Enfield has an influential voluntary sector and many other organisations also support this work. This includes schools, nurseries, the probation service, domestic abuse organisations, addiction services and several others. The Annual Report gives an account of the work undertaken by all of these organisations. Important responsibilities are shared by families, agencies and communities all working together to protect children and enable them to thrive.



This work is demanding and challenging, often national and local press headlines can infer that if only certain steps had been taken all would be well. However, there is often a complexity involved which can be tricky and sometimes difficult to grasp away from the national sound bites. We are all aware of the real budgetary pressures being experienced and this does stretch existing resources, and in some instances the streamlining of services that is still underway does impact on what may be available. However, as an LSCB it is our responsibility to keep talking together and to create opportunities for continuous improvements to continue.

2016-2017 has been another demanding and stretching period. The [ESCB website](#) and [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) pages are routinely updated, and I just want to select some important themes that we as a Board have focused on during the last year.

All 32 London Borough Boards work in conjunction with a London-wide Board, and this provides a regional coherence to safeguarding activities. Over this last couple of years Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE), Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and Prevent (early detection of vulnerability to terrorist influences) have all been under the national spotlight and therefore all London Boroughs have increased our activities in these areas. We have in Enfield kept a watchful eye and whilst none of these seriously concerning areas have been totally eradicated, we are confident that as a Board with all our partners working together, we are approaching and managing these areas in a coherent and purposeful way.

I do however want to highlight some of the areas that we still need to increase our attention on to measure any significant impact. The first of these is the thorny problem of children being affected by living in households where Domestic Abuse is present and also violence to young women and girls. We are working closely with colleagues from Community Safety and the police as well as voluntary groups to join up existing services and to do more to prevent this violence.

Children experiencing neglect are also particularly vulnerable and again this will be focused on during 2017-18. National headlines have usefully alerted us to the significant pressures on young people with

mental health problems. Appropriate treatment facilities are in short supply and very occasionally police custody suites or Adult hospital beds have been used to temporarily house children. These facilities are far from ideal and all of us working with children are seeking other solutions.

Safeguarding children's work whilst done well in Enfield amongst and across partnerships, is an area where we can never be complacent as new risks are being identified all the time. The ESCB takes its responsibilities seriously and I would commend this Annual Report to all as a good illustration of the range of issues being experienced and dealt with regularly.

2017-2018 will undoubtedly bring new and increased challenges, national legislation will have an impact on how the agencies will be expected to work together, and central guidance whilst delayed by the June General Election is expected in the Autumn.

My concluding comments echo my starting point, all staff and colleagues work hard together and a big Thank You from all of us connected to the Enfield Children's Safeguarding Board. Keeping children and young people safe in Enfield is a role taken seriously and this needs to be supported and continued.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Giani', with a large, stylized initial 'G'.

Summer 2017

Enfield – a snapshot

The London Borough of Enfield is London's most northerly and fourth most populous borough. The overall population is currently approximately 333,00 and this is predicted to rise to around 350,000 by 2020. There are currently approximately **83,773 children** (aged under 18) living in Enfield, making up **26% of the borough's population**. Enfield has a relatively young population with the number of children and young people aged 0-15 representing approximately 23% of the total population (compared to a London average of 14%).¹ Data from The Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) measures the proportion of all children aged 0 to 15 living in income deprived families. Their data concludes that Enfield is the 13th most deprived borough nationally and the 5th most deprived in London. The London Boroughs with greater levels of deprivation than Enfield have smaller baseline populations, meaning that Enfield has the largest number of children affected in poverty of any London borough.²

Enfield continues to experience significant changes to its overall population which includes an increase in overall numbers and a continued increase in the number of children in Enfield who affected by poverty. There is a high level of migration into Enfield both from other parts of the United Kingdom and from other countries, particularly from Eastern Europe.

Predictably, the numbers of 'contacts' and referrals that come into Enfield's Single Point of Entry (SPOE) have continued to rise. In 2015/16 there were 4154 referrals for children in Enfield which is almost 1500 more than five years ago, in 2011/12

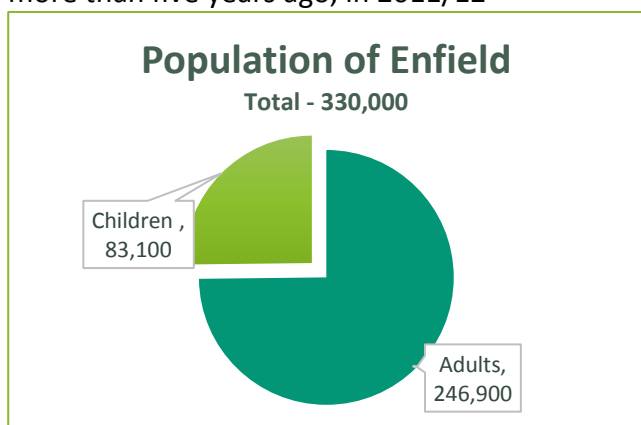


Figure 1 Population of Enfield

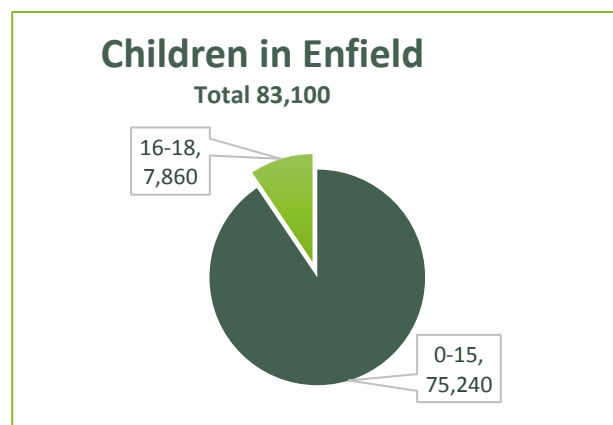


Figure 2 Children in Enfield

This

has continued to bring increased pressure on services across Enfield in a climate of reduced resources in all areas and has led to an increase in the numbers of children who become subject to Child Protection Plans and who are 'looked after' by Enfield. You can read more about data relating to safeguarding and what the local response has been in the **ESCB Dataset section below**.

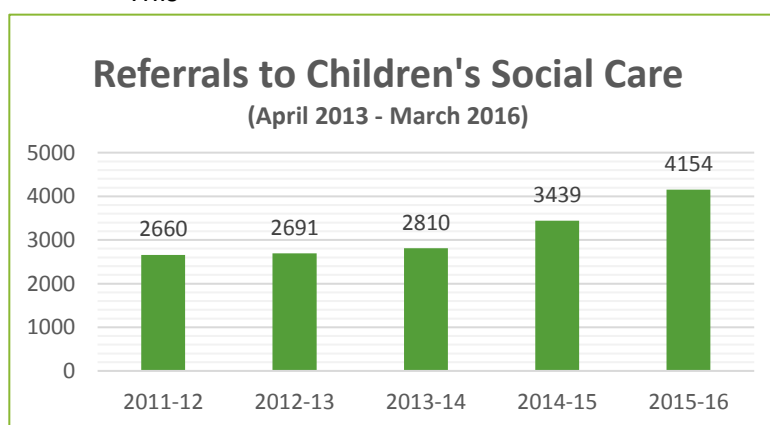


Figure 3 Referrals to Children's Social Care

¹ GLA London Datastore <https://data.london.gov.uk/demography/>

² English indices of deprivation 2015 <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/english-indices-of-deprivation-2015>
ESCB Annual Report 2016/17

In Education, there is a mixed picture of grant maintained schools and academies and across the borough 97% of schools are judged by Ofsted to be 'Good' or 'Outstanding'.

ESCB in context

2016-2017 has been another very busy year for the Safeguarding Children Board. It has, to some extent, been a year of uncertainty following the publication of the Alan [Wood review of local safeguarding children boards](#) in May. The review recommended significant changes to the way safeguarding arrangements were structured across the country. The reason Alan Wood was asked to conduct the review was the perception by the Department for Education that Local Safeguarding Children's Boards were ineffective in delivering their key objectives. This was based on the fact that Ofsted, in their reviews of LSCBs under the Single Inspection Framework (SIF) had judged a large number of boards to 'require improvement' or to be 'inadequate'. The Enfield board was inspected as part of the SIF that took place here in March 2015 and was judged, along with Children's Social Care to be 'Good'. The Wood report made a number of recommendations including suggested changes to the way Serious Case Reviews (SCRs) are managed and the way the Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) functions. These recommendations are referenced in those sections of this report but the most fundamental and significant recommendation made by Wood was that the government should make provision to abolish LSCBs and replace them with alternative local structures which would be less prescribed than LSCBs and would be the responsibility of three key agencies; the local authority, the Police and Health, to establish and manage. These recommendations became law with the publication of the [Children and Social Work Act 2017](#) which received royal assent in April 2017.

Wood Report

Review of the role and functions of
Local Safeguarding Children
Boards

March 2016

Enfield Response

The ESCB has considered discussed the report and subsequent Act on numerous occasions to plan a way forward which will both satisfy statutory requirements and continue to ensure that children and young people continue to be safeguarded effectively. There have been some specific changes to the structure of the board, which are discussed in more detail below but broadly our response has been to

ensure that business is conducted as usual; that partners continue to come together regularly to discuss local challenges and how best to respond to them and that Training and Learning, including the dissemination of key points from local and national Serious Case Reviews, continues to be prioritised and undertaken effectively.



Children and Social Work Act 2017

CHAPTER 16

Explanatory Notes have been produced to assist in the
understanding of this Act and are available separately

Executive Summary

As in previous annual reports the purpose of this executive summary is to give an overview of activity and progress made against the priority areas identified in our [Strategic Business Plan](#). The current was compiled with input from all partner agencies of the Board. The priorities have been identified from case reviews,

statutory duties, local issues, and national as well as London-wide areas of concern. The work is carried out via the sub-committees of the Board and progress will be reviewed regularly. The overall objective of the ESCB is, as always, the coordination of what is done by each person or body represented on the Board for the purpose 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 these purposes (Section 14 Children Act 2004)

There are a number of tasks and activities which are part of the Core Business of the ESCB which are addressed over the course of the year in a variety of ways and outcomes and effectiveness are monitored through the subcommittees and the Board itself. There are also a number of specific safeguarding themes which have been identified from local and national issues and drivers including Serious Case Reviews and the activity of the ESCB subcommittees which have been included among the priorities

Overall this has been a very positive year for the board despite significant changes and challenges. Importantly there remains a very strong commitment to the board and its activity from all its member agencies and organisations. This is evidenced both from the strong collaborative ethos and commitment to working together as well as by the single agency safeguarding activity undertaken by all members which is detailed in the [Statements from ESCB partner agencies](#) section below.

The Business Plan is divided into four sections with each section focusing on a priority area for development and activity. The priority areas are listed below along with some of the key achievements made this year. Many of the achievements contain hyperlinks which lead to the relevant page(s) of the [Enfield Safeguarding Children Board's website](#).

Effective responses to specific safeguarding concerns

Child Sexual Exploitation / Missing / Trafficking

There has again been much activity and positive progress in this important area in 2016/17. During the year **111** young people were identified as either experiencing or being at significant risk of CSE. This figure is very similar to the last full year analysis where **112** young people were identified in 2015.

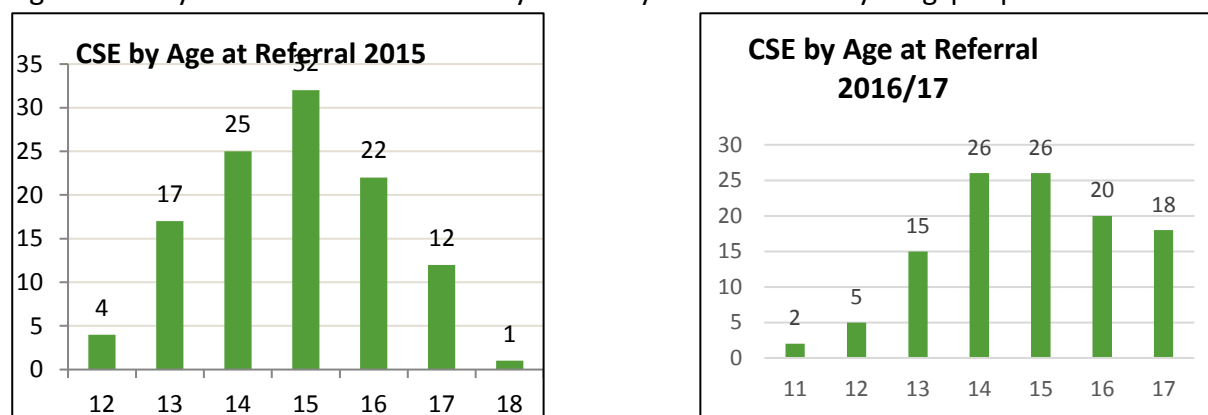
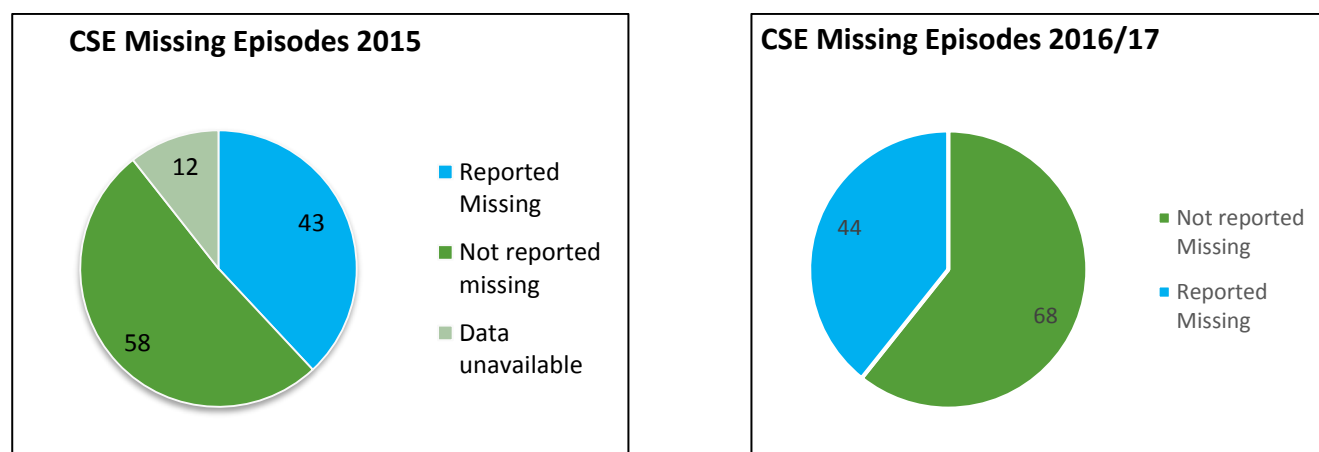


Figure 4 CSE by Age

There is no noticeable difference in age range. There has been an increase in the amount of boys who are identified as experience in CSE. In 2015 there were 105 girls and **8** boys and in 2016/17 there were 99 girls and **13** boys. This represents a positive shift in understanding that boys can be victims of CSE as well as girls. Data relating to the ethnicity of young people experiencing CSE in Enfield and the parts of the borough in which they live has not changed significantly with White British young people remaining the single most vulnerable group and the N9, N18 and EN3 postcodes featuring post prominently.

The number of young people who have had episode of being missing and have also experienced CSE has not risen significantly but there clearly remains a correlation between these issues.



During the course of the year **62** young people were removed from the CSE list. This indicates effective inter-agency work to reduce the risk of CSE for those young people.

An important development for the ESCB has been the establishment of a new subcommittee; the [Vulnerable Young People \(VYP\) subcommittee](#) which met for the first time toward the end of the year. The VYP replaces the Trafficking, Sexual Exploitation and Missing (TSEM) group which had been in place since 2012.

Given the progress made on tackling CSE and Missing in Enfield and the growing understanding nationally and locally of the complex, often intertwined issues that young people face and how they can impact on young person's life it was proposed and agreed in early 2017 that the good work is built upon and expanded as part of a new **Vulnerable Young People** group. The new group was established in March 2017 and includes a focus on a number of additional areas. These include:

- Gang activity in relation to young people
- A sharpened focus on Trafficking and Modern Slavery
- Radicalisation and the Prevent agenda
- Children & Young People involved in or at risk of Harmful Practices (including Female Genital Mutilation, Forced Marriage and Honour Based Abuse)
- Young people who are at risk of or experiencing Domestic Abuse.

The group oversees and closely supports the work of the Multi-Agency Sexual Exploitation (MASE) group which this year, has changed its focus to become more strategic looking predominantly at locations,

themes, trends and cross border issues with discussion about individual cases covering only essential actions. This year the MASE has been involved in a number of initiatives including;

- A Police 'Test purchase' operation with local hotels to check local responses to potential CSE issues. The responses were largely positive and the operation was followed by a training workshop for hotel staff.
- Targeted Police, Community Safety and youth worker activity around a local park where significant Gang and drug activity had been identified as well as CSE. This has led to a number of arrests and increased intelligence about the local picture

In July 2015, the *Missing Children Risk Management Group (MCRMG)* was established. Whilst not an ESCB subcommittee the work of this multi-agency group is linked closely to the VYP and MASE. The group is made up of representatives from all relevant agencies to enable and promote an enhanced service to ensure children and young people, who are or have a history of going missing from home, local authority care or education, are identified, safeguarded and supported. Initially the group primarily discussed young people who were missing from education but increasingly in the last year as the work of the group has become more widely understood, it has focused on high risk young people many of who go missing regularly. The active involvement of the Police has been key to the group's success.

You can read more about work undertaken in this area, including data and statistics in the [Vulnerable Young People \(VYP\) subcommittee](#) section below.

Domestic Abuse / Violence Against Women & Girls (VAWG)

The board has continued to monitor and support activity related to VAWG throughout 2016/17. Iterations of the new Domestic Abuse strategy have been presented to the board on three occasions and board members have offered advice, direction and guidance. In early 2016 the new [Joint Targeted Area Inspection \(JTAI\) framework](#) was introduced. The purpose of this framework is to understand how effectively agencies in a local area are able to respond to specific issues. From

NORTH MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT PRESSURES – SPRING 2016

In the Spring of 2016 the Emergency Department at NMUH became so busy that patients were asked to leave unless their conditions were extremely serious. The issue made headline news both locally and nationally. Senior Paediatric staff were asked to assure the ESCB that safeguarding children issues were not being missed because of these pressures

In December 2016, the board had a presentation on an extensive audit that looked at every case where a child had left without being seen in the month of March.

The Board was assured that child protection issues are routinely picked up at triage stage and young children with head injuries are always treated as a priority.

The Board heard that there had been many changes at NMUH including an increase in number of doctors; improved teaching programme for trainee doctors; and improved supervision. In summary, most patients who left without being seen could have been seen at a GP surgery

The Board was reassured by the very thorough audit, that there was no evidence that safeguarding issues were being missed despite the very significant pressures the Emergency Department has been experiencing.

MET POLICE HMIC INSPECTION – SEPTEMBER 2016

HMIC undertook a Safeguarding inspection across the Met in September 2016. The outcome was poor and identified concerns in relation to the Met's approach to protecting vulnerable young people. ESCB members from Enfield Police provided an update on activity being taken to address the problems and advised the board of activity taking place across the force. The new [Police and Crime Plan for London 2017-2020](#) has three priorities:

- Tackling violence against women and girls;
- Keeping children and young people safe; and
- Standing up to extremism, hatred and violence.

Borough policing will move to a new model and pilots are currently running in other boroughs. Enfield is expected to merge with Haringey. The board was given assurance that safeguarding is at the forefront of all police work. A programme of safeguarding training for all officers across London has commenced. An action plan has been developed. The ESCB will continue to monitor progress both locally and across the Met.

September 2016 to March 2017 the theme was children living with Domestic Abuse. Whist Enfield was not inspected there was much activity across the partnership to map, understand and enhance our response to Domestic Abuse in Enfield. You can read more about work undertaken in this area in the [Quality Assurance](#) section below.

Radicalisation and Prevent

The board has continued to work closely with the Prevent service in the Community Safety Unit to ensure there is a high level of understanding of issues relating to Radicalisation and the response to it in Enfield. A key move has been incorporating a focus on Radicalisation as part of the new Vulnerable Young People subcommittee, recognising that this is one of many potential challenges and issues that young people in Enfield face. There is a strong focus on safeguarding individuals from supporting or becoming involved in terrorism. To do this there has been work with teachers, social care staff and a number of other organisations to offer support to those who are deemed to be at risk.

There is regular and ongoing proactive contact with the Office for Security and Counter Terrorism (OSCT) and Police's Counter Terrorism Command (SO15) on Prevent work and keep them regularly updated on trainings, details of project delivery and visits made to local community groups.

A key element of Enfield's Prevent support is through the Channel programme, which has similarities to a multi-agency safeguarding panel. The panel receives concerns about vulnerable individuals and the needs are assessed along with any risks that the police may highlight suggesting terrorism or radicalisation concerns. The support is voluntary and where this is accepted the panel is able to bring to the table unique Home Office approved intervention providers who have experience in tackling the radicalisation of individuals and are able to offer one to one support and mentoring. The Channel panel receives regular representation from Children Services and where required from appropriate teachers and social workers. Read more about activity relating to Prevent and Radicalisation on our [Tackling extremism & radicalisation](#) webpage.

Early Help

The board has closely monitored the development of the [Enfield Family Resilience Strategy](#) which is the basis for the local response to Early Help. Board members have offered scrutiny, challenge and direction as the strategy has developed. The ethos of the strategy is that we want all our children to be safe, confident and happy, with opportunities to achieve through learning and reach their full potential as they become adults.

Effective safeguarding structures & systems

As referenced above there have been some changes to the way the ESCB is structured both in response to national changes (the Wood Report and Children & Social Work Act) and a local shift in the way we are trying to address the challenges and issues experienced by young people in a consistent and joined up way ([Vulnerable Young People subcommittee](#).)

Our [Quality Assurance subcommittee](#) continues to monitor data relating to safeguarding across the partnership and to oversee audits on a range of relevant topics. The group has pushed forward our Section 11 / Section 175 structure and programme this year to ensure we have the widest possible understanding of safeguarding activity across all agencies including in our schools. We have conducted a range of 'challenge interviews' all of which have concluded with feedback and action plans where required. You can read more about activity in the area and view some of the data considered by the QA group in the [Quality Assurance](#) section below.

The board itself has effectively offered challenge to partner agencies throughout the year and sought assurances that action was taken to ensure children and young people are safeguarded. You can read more about some of these in the sidebars.

Communication & Learning

The Board has continued to lead on and steer the direction of the [Signs of Safety](#) across the borough. We began our Signs of Safety implementation journey in the autumn of 2015 and since then a tremendous amount of progress has been made towards fully embedding the model within children's services and among partner agencies in Enfield. Over 800 professionals across the borough have not attend a Signs of Safety training or briefing session and there have been many structural and process changes which have helped ensure the model and its principles are a core part of the way we work with children and families across Enfield. You can read more about Signs of Safety in the [Enfield Children's Social Care](#) section

This year the board has taken the innovative step of merging its Learning and Development subcommittee with that of the Safeguarding Adult Board ensuring consistency, reducing duplication and improving quality. There have been a number of joint ventures including joint Domestic abuse sessions and a joint conference on Modern Slavery. There has once again been an extensive programme of [Safeguarding Training](#) across the partnership, ensuring that all staff have access to good quality training, which helps support sustained improvements across all safeguarding services. Across the year, we once again delivered training and learning sessions to well over 1000 people professionals. Read more about training in the [learning and the development](#) section

We continued to raise the **profile** of ESCB by developing and maintaining the [ESCB website](#), getting articles into the local press, and developing our social media presence of both [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) where we now have over 800 followers.

Conclusion and Challenges for 2016/17

2016/17 has again been a busy year for Enfield Safeguarding Children Board. It was a year that brought considerable uncertainty, but we have made sure we have remained focused on our priorities and goals and have maintained an unrelenting focus on supporting our partner agencies and driving improvement and quality.

This report clearly demonstrates that safeguarding activity is being maintained across the partnership in challenging times and that the ESCB continues to have clear agreement and focus on the strategic priorities and ongoing challenges. Reports from our partners demonstrate that statutory and non-statutory members are consistently working towards the same goals as part of the multi-agency partnership and within their individual agencies.

The Board remains committed to a programme of scrutiny, monitoring and, quality assuring the quality of safeguarding activity across Enfield, and this programme of robust analysis and challenge will continue to ensure that children and young people are kept safe. The Board is proud of its successes but of course there is no room for complacency, the economic situation and organisational change affecting public services in Enfield and across the country continues to be a challenge for the Board.

2017/18 will inevitably bring more change; we are likely to see statutory changes to the way Serious Case Reviews and child death processes are managed. We will ensure we stay abreast of developments and will seek and utilise 'best practice' examples both in these areas and as new safeguarding structures emerge across the country.

We will of course continue our focus on vulnerability and on those issues that affect young people including; Child Sexual Exploitation, Missing, Trafficking and gang activity and will continue to explore ways of effectively bringing these issues together in a meaningful way to improve our response to them. We will maintain our focus on Domestic Abuse both on the ways parental domestic abuse can impact on children and on abusive relationships between young people.

We remain keen to enhance our engagement with young people and will renew our commitment to ensuring Enfield young people's voice are heard at the board and explore new and innovative ways of achieving this. We will refresh our Strategic Business Plan and publish a new version if it, outlining our priorities and planned activity in the autumn of 2017

We hope that you find this report interesting and helpful. You will note that there are many hyperlinks throughout the report which lead to relevant pages of our website. We continue to work hard to ensure our website is as relevant and useful, both for professionals and members of the public and we are also striving to maximise our use of social media to promote our work and engage with others. If you are a [Twitter](#) or [Facebook](#) user please follow us by clicking on the links. Your feedback and thoughts are

always important to us. You can get in touch wither through our social media channels or through the website www.enfieldscb.org.uk/contact

Enfield's Lead Member for Children Services, Cllr Ayfer Orhan attends every board meeting and continues to challenge the work of the ESCB through discussion, asking questions and seeking clarity. This provides a consistent and continued scrutiny and challenge function to the Board whilst at the same time ensures the work of the board is fully understood and supported by the Council.

There are currently five Subcommittees operating within ESCB, in which a significant amount of the board's work is progressed. As with the full Board, membership is comprised of relevant representatives from all partner agencies.

Role of the Board

Enfield Safeguarding Children Board is made up of statutory and voluntary partners. These include representatives from Health, Education, Children's Services, Police, Probation, Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (CAFCASS), Youth Offending, the Community & Voluntary Sector as well as two very active Lay Members.

Our main role is to coordinate what is done locally to protect and promote the welfare of children and young people in Enfield and to monitor the effectiveness of those arrangements to ensure better outcomes for children and young people. The effectiveness of ESCB relies upon its ability to champion the safeguarding agenda through exercising an independent voice.

Safeguarding children is everybody's responsibility. Our purpose is to make sure that all children and young people in the borough are protected from abuse and neglect. Children can only be safeguarded from harm if agencies work well together, follow procedures and guidance based on best practice and are well informed and trained.

A key element of the ESCB's work is the provision of information to and from the public, potential and actual service users, staff working in partner agencies and others interested in children's welfare. We work hard to ensure our website www.enfieldscb.org is as helpful and up to date as possible.

Barnet, Enfield and Haringey 
Mental Health NHS Trust


Enfield
Clinical Commissioning Group



ENFIELD
Council 



**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**



North Middlesex
University Hospital 
NHS Trust

London
Community Rehabilitation Company



Royal Free London 
NHS Foundation Trust

National
Probation
Service

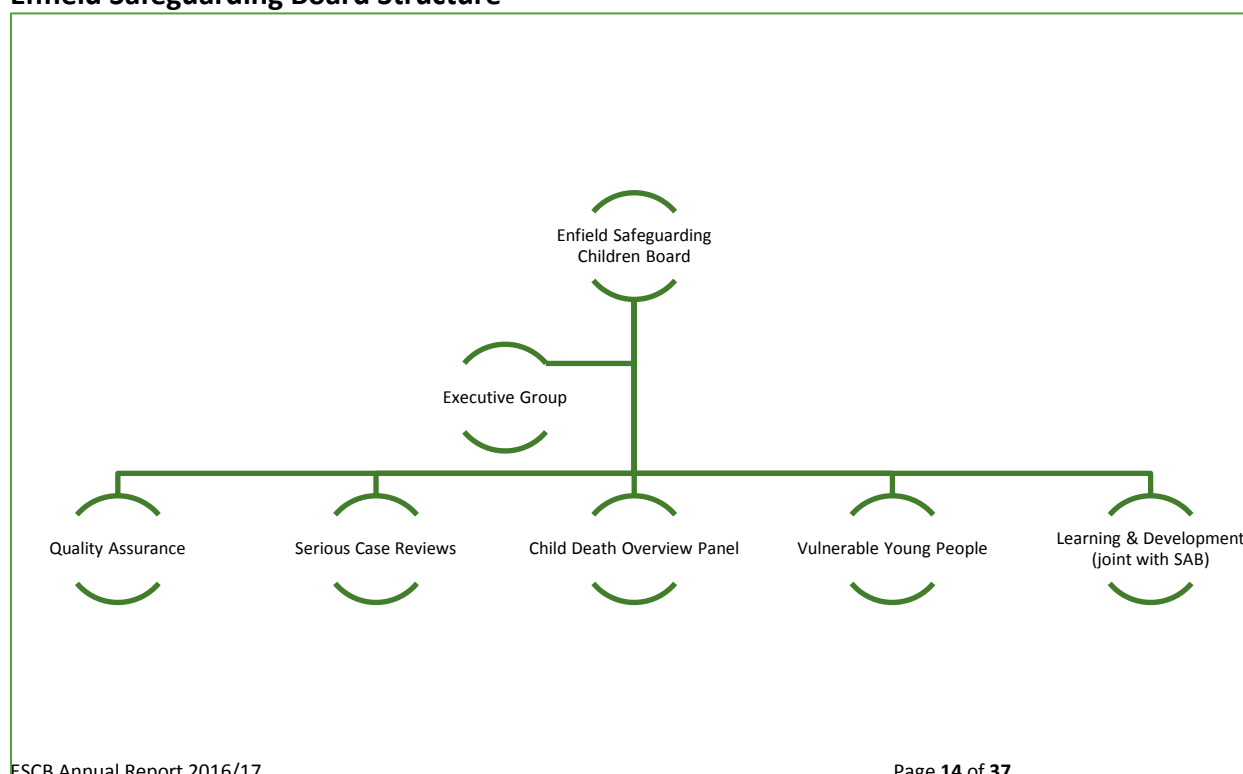


Governance, Structure and Accountability

The [Children Act 2004](#) places a duty on every local authority to establish a Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB). Although, as mentioned above, the Children and Social Work Act 2017 makes provision to abolish LSCBs and establish alternative arrangements. Given the fact that the Enfield board has continued to operate effectively and efficiently with positive and proactive engagement of partners there are no immediate plans to make significant changes to the governance and structure of the board. This year we have reduced the number of times the full board meets. In 2016/17 it met on five occasions, and in 2017/18 it will meet four times. This decision was taken in consultation with partners, many of who are part of other LSCBs and all of whom are engaged with the ESCB in range of ways. We have established an **Executive Group** made up of the chairs of the ESCB's subcommittees which meets four times a year. The core functions of the Executive group are to; agree the priorities for the board and ensure that agreed actions are clear and completed. There have also been some changes to the way our subcommittees are structured including the creation of a **Vulnerable Young People** subcommittee and the amalgamation of the Learning & Development subcommittee with the equivalent committee of the adult board. You can read more about the activity of the subcommittees in the [ESCB subcommittees section](#) of this report

It is important to remember that the ESCB does not commission or deliver direct frontline services. Whilst the board does have not have the power to direct other organisations it does have a clear role in identifying where improvement is needed and steering agencies accordingly. Each Board partner retains their own existing line of accountability for safeguarding. You can read about some examples of where the board has identified potential safeguarding issues and sought assurance from partner agencies in the [Executive Summary](#) of this report.

Enfield Safeguarding Board Structure



Key Relationships

Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB)

The HWB assumed its full statutory powers in April 2013 and Geraldine, our chair is a participant observer, increasing the influence of the Board by strengthening the relationship with this key strategic group. Clearer lines of accountability are in place and ESCB report regularly to the HWB and continue to make sure key safeguarding issues are addressed.

Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB)

The ESCB Chair is a participant observer on the Safeguarding Adult Board and meets regularly with that board's new Chair, Christabel Shawcross to ensure there is dialogue and mutual understanding of priorities and initiatives. This year the Learning & Development subcommittees of the two boards have merged to improve and enhance the training programmes of both boards and to co-commission and co-deliver training where relevant. You can read more about the work of the [Joint Learning and Development subcommittee](#) below.

The subcommittees and related activities

This section provides some detail about the work and achievements of the five ESCB subcommittees. It includes some commentary and analysis of some activity that may be beyond the specific remit of the committees but is directly connected to their areas of focus. For example, the Vulnerable Young People subcommittee section highlights the very wide range of work undertaken across the borough to tackle Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and related issues.

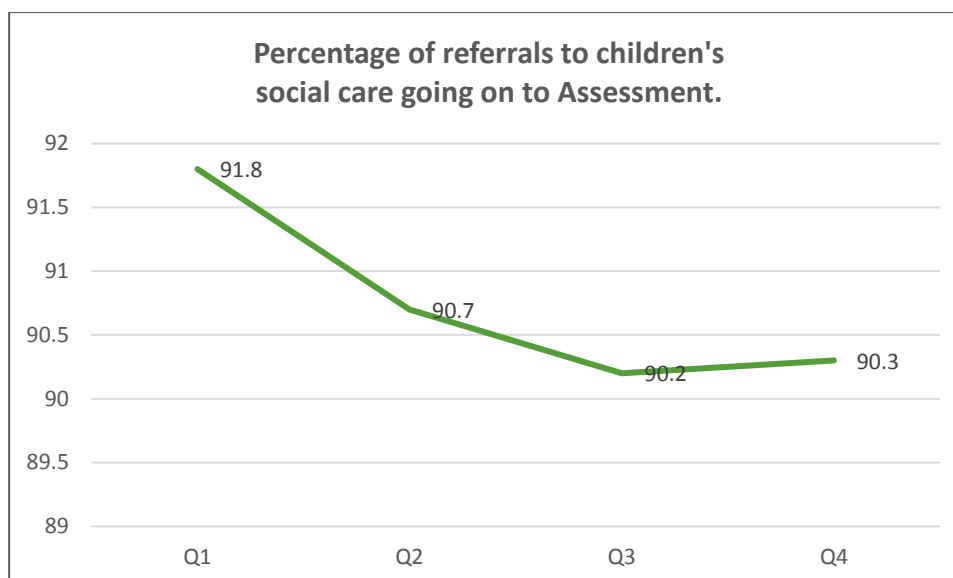
Quality Assurance (QA)

The Quality Assurance subcommittee meets every six weeks and is chaired by the Designated Nurse from Enfield CCG. Its primary functions are a) to implement, monitor and scrutinise a robust programme of audit and data analysis to ensure safeguarding activity across the partnership is effective and b) to assure itself that safeguarding work undertaken by its partner agencies is of a consistently high standard.

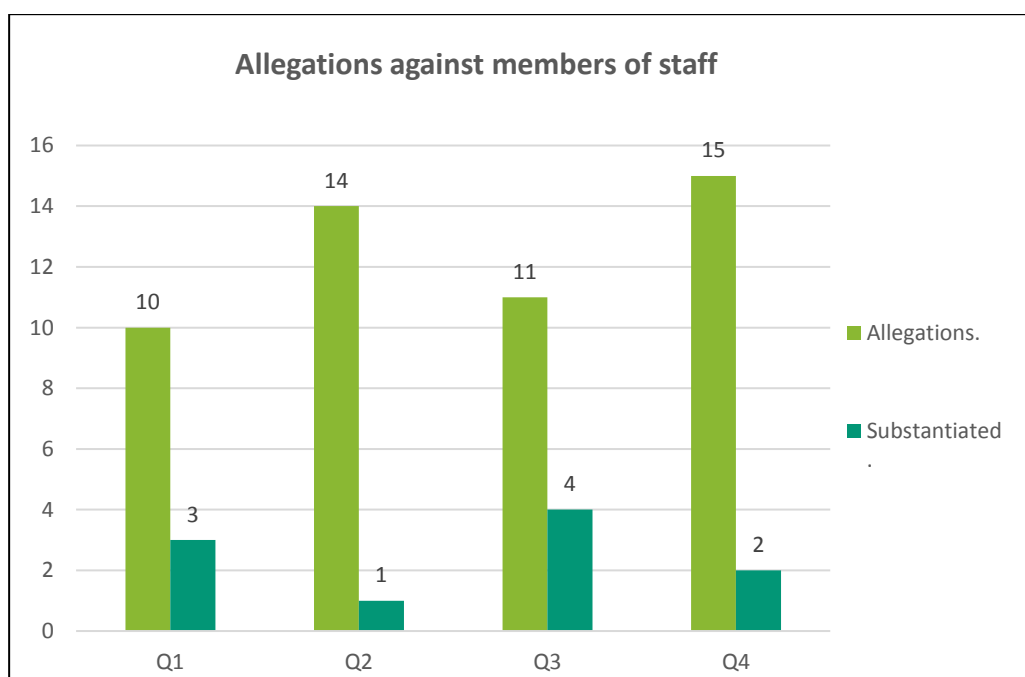
The Dataset

The QA group monitors a dataset from partner agencies providing information relating to safeguarding. At each meeting, the dataset is discussed and any issues and concerns are identified and fed back to agency representatives. Sample data items are included below;

The table below shows the percentage of referrals to Children's Social Care that subsequently went onto an assessment. The figure was consistently high across the year indicating that appropriate decisions are being made by the Single Point of Entry (SPOE) team regarding contacts they receive. Where the team believe the situation reaches the threshold for social work intervention they will record a referral and pass it to the Referral and Assessment Team. Of 4,090 referrals between 01/04/2016 and 31/03/2017, 3,692 progressed to an Assessment



This table shows the number of allegations against staff members from across Enfield that were received by the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO). 50 allegations were received in total of which 10 were substantiated. This is very similar to last year when 48 allegations were made of which 12 were substantiated. You can read more information about the work of the LADO and related data in the [Annual LADO report](#) on the ESCB website.



Themed Case File Audits

Each year a range of themed case file audits are undertaken through the ESCB focusing on key areas of safeguarding activity. Some audits are undertaken by managers from within children's social care and our agency partners whilst others are completed by external, independent auditors. Audits undertaken in 2016/17 include;

➤ Missing Children

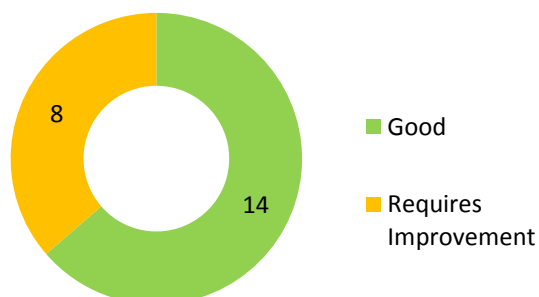
- Domestic Abuse
- Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)
- Child in Need Plans and Decision Making
- Child & Family Assessments
- Signs of Safety
- Child Protection Plans for young people of 15 and over

Auditors use a standard template to assess and rate different aspects of work using the standard Ofsted judgement structure; *Outstanding, Good, Requires Improvement and Inadequate*

All audit documents are sent to relevant social workers and managers on completion with clear recommendations for any required actions. The audit document is also uploaded to the Social Care casefile system ensuring it can be easily accessed. The scores and comments from each audit are collated into summary reports which are then shared with the workforce to ensure learning is widely shared and necessary improvement actions are taken. Below are some example audit findings from an audit that focused on Child in Need Plans.

Child in Need (CIN) Plans and Decision making – January 2017

This peer audit looked at a random sample of 22 cases to assess the quality of CIN Plans and related decision making

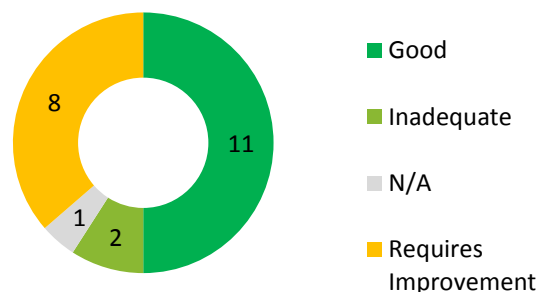


The majority of audited cases were rated as good (14/22), with the remaining 8 cases rated as requiring improvement. No cases were found to be outstanding or inadequate.

Overall Judgement

There was evidence of some very good and effective direct work with children and young people. Examples include; *'Evidence of the Four Window exercise being completed with x and other techniques being used with siblings to understand wishes and feelings'* and *'there is a youth worker involved doing direct work with the*

young person and clear records on file of good communication and information sharing between the CSE youth worker and the social worker.' However, in other cases there is little if any evidence of direct work being undertaken. Two cases were judged inadequate in this respect.



Quality of Direct Work

The Recommendations, actions and outcomes from all audits was compiled at the end of the year and shared across the partnership. Below are some examples of audits undertaken and the key outcomes and impact resulting from the post-audit action plans

Audit	Children Missing from Home or Care - July 2016
Rationale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To follow up effectiveness of changes to procedures & processes implemented in response to Ofsted inspection in February 2015 To develop understanding of responses to Missing children and adherence to requirements and guidance across Children's Social Care to inform practice and process improvements
Outcomes / Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ESCB Missing Protocol was updated and redistributed clarifying roles, responsibilities and expectations in relation to Missing Children and in particular to return home interviews Series of meetings held with provider of debriefing interviews and improvement plan put in place which included amendments to form used. Monitoring meetings have seen a marked improvement in the analytical quality of these interviews A further audit, focusing specifically on debriefing interviews, will be conducted in June 2017.

Audit	Domestic Abuse - October 2016
Rationale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To develop understanding of responses to cases where Domestic Abuse is an issue to inform practice and process improvements
Outcomes / Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Immediate action was taken to restructure the SPOE to increase the amount of decision makers in the team An external review of SPOE structures and processes was undertaken to look at improving efficiency and effectiveness The Case Summary template was amended to include a heading <i>Are there any Risks or Warnings?</i> to improve recording of risk including Domestic abuse

Audit	Children's Centre Case File Audits - October 2016 – March 2017
Rationale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing case file audit activity to monitor compliance with procedures, identify areas of good practice and areas for development
Outcomes / Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children's Centre staff are supported to work on increasingly complex cases Protocols now standardised across all hubs Appropriate recording systems have been established Children's Centre Staff are now attending TAF 'Train the Trainer' sessions organised by Change & Challenge.

Audit	Child Sexual Exploitation - January 2017
Rationale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audit of two cases undertaken in direct response to concerns raised about two young women who were victims of CSE. Identify learning to improve multi-agency response to similar cases.
Outcomes / Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amendments made to Enfield CSE operating protocol to a) clarify the use of the CSE risk assessment tool and b) clarify requirements for Strategy Discussion for CSE cases The audit Key Findings had a direct influence on the decision re-structure the CSEP Team and to re-locate it within Children's Services. Plan to co-locate the CSE police officers within the CSEP team to improve co-working has been expedited.

Audit	CIN Plans & Decision Making -January 2017
Rationale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve understanding of responses to CIN processes and related decision making. To inform practice and process improvements
Outcomes / Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identification in March 2017 of 25 Signs of Safety practice leads from across the workforce to receive enhanced training and coaching in Signs of Safety principles and practice. Practice leads will offer expert support and guidance to colleagues in application of Signs of Safety across all areas of work Amendments have been made to the C&F assessment / Report for conference and Core Groups templates within the ICS system. Work is continuing to ensure CIN documents also reflect Signs of Safety principles within ICS

Audit	Change & Challenge (Troubled Families) case file audits – February 2017
Rationale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing case file audit activity to monitor compliance with procedures, identify areas of good practice and areas for development To test compliance/effectiveness on 6 key areas including; voice of the service user, timeliness, multi-agency working, and developing a learning culture,
Outcomes / Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Team managers audit cases for the Troubled Families programme in line with guidance from the DCLG, using the 4 key principles. This new system of management audit has seen a significant rise in the number of successful outcomes for Enfield, with many families returning to work. Signs of safety is now embedded into supervision so that caseworkers come prepared with each open case This gives both managers and caseworkers a clear focus for the direction of work Introduced time limited reviews for casework to ensure that cases are not drifting and that non-engagement can be addressed. Review work every six weeks (often in supervision) and aim to complete in 3-6 months Introduced child based tools and have seen positive engagement from children and young people as well as parents gaining a greater insight into the experiences of their children.

Audit	Parenting Support case file audits – February 2017
Rationale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing case file audit activity to monitor compliance with procedures, identify areas of good practice and areas for development
Outcomes / Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduced monthly group discussion & because of this Early Help assessments have become more thorough and focused. Parenting Support workers now have reflective cards to use after every intervention and to assist with individual supervision. This has given staff a greater insight into their practice which has enabled them to develop their skills. After introducing these tools to families Parenting Support workers have seen positive engagement from children young people and their parents impacting on positive outcomes

Audit	Signs of Safety – March 2017
Rationale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To check compliance with Signs of Safety across Children's Services and understand how effectively Signs of Safety is becoming embedded in social work practice to inform practice and process improvements
Outcomes / Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identification in March 2017 of 25 Signs of Safety practice leads from across the workforce to receive enhanced training and coaching in Signs of Safety principles and practice. Practice leads will offer expert support and guidance to colleagues in application of Signs of Safety across all areas of work

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|--|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A further audit will be undertaken later in the year to check progress in relation to embedding Signs of Safety across Children's Services and to increase understanding of how well the model is understood and utilised across partner agencies |
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Section 11 / Section 175

ESCB conducts annual Safeguarding audits under **Section 11 of the children Act (2004)** which deals with the duty to make arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in the local area by seeking assurance that agencies have effective and robust arrangements in place.

This year we have continued to build on and expand this activity with a specific focus on our schools. Section 175 of the Education Act (2002) requires local education authorities and governing bodies of maintained schools and further education institutions to make arrangements to ensure that their functions are carried out with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. In addition, those bodies must have regard to any guidance issued by the Secretary of State in considering what arrangements they need to make for that purpose of the section. The ESCB developed a **Schools Safeguarding Checklist** to assist schools to assure themselves, and the Safeguarding Children Board, that they are compliant with Safeguarding requirements. It was sent directly to all schools and to governing bodies. The response from schools has been excellent with over 90% of our schools returning the checklist. Phase Two of the process has been to offer support visits to schools to help them review and strengthen their safeguarding arrangements with a particular focus on current challenges such as CSE and Radicalisation. So far six schools have either been visited or have arranged visits and the feedback has been extremely positive. We will continue to expand this approach in 2017/18 and will start to target those schools where concerns about safeguarding have been identified or raised.

Serious Case Reviews (SCR)

The subcommittee's primary function is to undertake Serious Case Reviews for cases that meet the criteria as defined in Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015

A serious case is one where:

- (a) abuse or neglect of a child is known or suspected; and
- (b) either — (i) the child has died; or (ii) the child has been seriously harmed and there is cause for concern as to the way in which the authority, their Board partners or other relevant persons have worked together to safeguard the child.

The group also considers and discusses a range of other cases where concerns have been identified and follows up on actions previous Serious Case and Independent Management Reviews, both within and beyond Enfield to ensure that any lessons learned are implemented.

In August 2016 Enfield Safeguarding Children Board commissioned a Serious Case Review following the tragic death of an Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Child (UASC) from Eritrea. The focus, as with all Serious Case Reviews, was to explore the circumstances surrounding the death and to identify any useful learning. The report was completed by the end of the year but publication has been delayed because of

a pending coroner's inquest. It is hoped that the review will be published in the autumn. The reviews key findings related to the communication of information between agencies and particularly the identification and communication of any potential risk. An action plan has been developed and implemented ahead of publication and details of actions taken will be published at the same time as the review.

A number of other high-profile or otherwise noteworthy Serious Case Reviews from across the UK have been discussed at the subcommittee for each of these briefing papers have been produced and disseminated to multi-agency partners. These include; a Serious Case Review in Cumbria which involved the sexual abuse of a young girl

Two serious case reviews relating to Special Guardianship orders in Birmingham and Oxfordshire

And a review undertaken in Hackney concerning children abused by their Foster Carers. This SCR was considered to be of particular relevance for Foster Carers and for Social Workers who work directly with them. As such the Head of Looked After Children produced an action plan detailing a number of activities to ensure that a) Foster Carers and social workers were aware of the SCR's findings and b) that any relevant identified recommendations were also implemented locally.

In July 2016 Haringey Safeguarding Children Board published an SCR concerning a baby who was found to have been killed by his father. The SCR made a number of findings and recommendations in relation to the functioning of the Haringey Emergency Duty Team (EDT). As a consequence, a review of EDT arrangements in Enfield was undertaken and a restructure is currently in progress.

Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)

The Enfield Safeguarding Children's Board carries out Child Death Reviews as set out in the guidance 'Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015'. This process is performed by multi-disciplinary Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) which is chaired by a Consultant in Public Health.

CDOP reviews each death of a child normally resident in the borough up to the age of 18, excluding babies who are stillborn and planned terminations of pregnancy performed within the law. Relevant information is collected and collated and each child's case is discussed to determine if the death could have been prevented. The intention is not to assign blame, but to determine if there were any modifiable factors that may have contributed to the death and decide if any actions could be taken to prevent future such deaths. If it is determined that there are such actions, recommendations are made to the ESCB or other relevant body so that action can be taken accordingly.

The panel also has a role in identifying patterns or trends in local data and reporting these to the LSCB. The lessons and trends arising from reviews are compiled and reported to the main Board and information or health promotion campaigns are carried out as appropriate – this has included in the past information events on Sudden Infant Death Syndrome which were held in conjunction with other Boroughs and learning events to inform professionals of the work of the safeguarding board and CDOP.

Vulnerable Young People (VYP)

The Trafficking, Sexual Exploitation and Missing (TSEM) subcommittee of the LSCB was established in early 2012. Its key function was overseeing Enfield's operational and strategic response to Missing and Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE). Meetings provided a forum for agencies to share operational issues with each other and also to provide transparent information on issues within their own agencies and to develop a strategy and protocols where required to deal more effectively with the issues and highlight any specific areas of risk. It has representation from all agencies working with children and young people in Enfield.

The subcommittee oversaw and steered the development of a number of key pieces of work in 2016/17 including the [CSE](#) and [Missing](#) operating protocols, the CSE strategy and Action Plan, the CSE Champions group, the Cross Borough Vulnerable Young Person's project, a comprehensive and expanding CSE [Training programme](#) and a number of awareness raising projects and campaigns including ongoing commitment to [Operation Makesafe](#).

The subcommittee has played an important role in the development of Enfield's Multi-Agency Sexual Exploitation (MASE) meetings that have been in operation since 2013 and has provided support and direction to Enfield's multi-agency Child Sexual Exploitation Prevention (CSEP) Team which was established in July 2015. TSEM has had strong link with the Missing Children Risk Management Group (MCRMG) which was established in Jul 2015.

Given the progress made on tackling CSE and Missing in Enfield and given the growing understanding nationally and locally of the complex, often intertwined issues that young people face and how they can impact on young person's life it was proposed that the good work is built upon and expanded to include a focus on a number of additional areas. These include:

- Gang activity in relation to young people
- A sharpened focus on Trafficking and Modern Slavery
- Radicalisation and the Prevent agenda
- Children & Young People involved in or at risk of Harmful Practices (including Female Genital Mutilation, Forced Marriage and Honour Based Abuse)
- Young people who are at risk of or experiencing Domestic Abuse.

There is already significant work to address these issues being undertaken in the borough. Much of this work is led by the Community Safety Unit (CSU). The Gangs Partnership Group (GPG) meets fortnightly and focuses on young gang nominals in the borough and helps to coordinate the work that to provide support and intervention. The Channel Panel meets regularly to consider referrals for young people for whom there are concerns related to radicalisation. Channel considers risk and coordinates plans and interventions for vulnerable young people. The Domestic Violence Strategic Group (DVSG) oversees the boroughs Domestic Abuse strategy and action plan and coordinates activity in relation to Domestic Abuse and Violence Against Women & Girls (VAWG)

The new Vulnerable Young People (VYP) subcommittee will not attempt to replace or replicate the work of these groups but instead to link closely with them and ensure that there is robust communication,

closely allied work programmes and effective representation at the new subcommittee from the CSU groups.

Learning and Development (L&D)

It has been another very busy and productive year for Learning and Development across the partnership. An important change has been the bringing together of the ESCB Learning & Development sub-committee with the Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) equivalent committee. This was in response to a recognition by both boards that there is overlap in the training needs of both workforces and that, of course, children have parents who are adults.

The two committees were brought together in January 2016. The key functions of the group are a) to work on behalf of the ESCB & SAB to ensure the availability and delivery of high quality training and development on Safeguarding issues and b) to bring together learning and development opportunities for the adults and children's workforces where there are clear synergies and advantages in doing so.

The ESCB programme this year has had a strong focus on training and awareness-raising in relation to the implementation of Signs of Safety, with almost 450 people attending courses on workshops on the model across the year.

Other key drivers and priorities for the Training Programme this year have included:

- A continued focus on the key topic of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) with specific focus on specific agencies (e.g. Police and Foster Carers)
- Joint training sessions on Domestic Abuse and its impact on families for professionals who work with both adults and children, increasing awareness of understanding of gang related issues and links with other issues, such as CSE.
- Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking. A joint conference was held on this topic in February 2017 attended by more than 70 professionals from across the partnership

The ESCB Training programme is commissioned by the Board and monitored on the Board's behalf through the multi-agency Joint Adults & Children's Learning & Development sub-committee which meets at least quarterly.

WHAT IS SIGNS OF SAFETY?

Signs of Safety is an internationally recognised model for direct work with children and families

It is an outcome-focused, strengths-based model with a robust risk management framework & includes a range of principles, processes and tools to guide the work

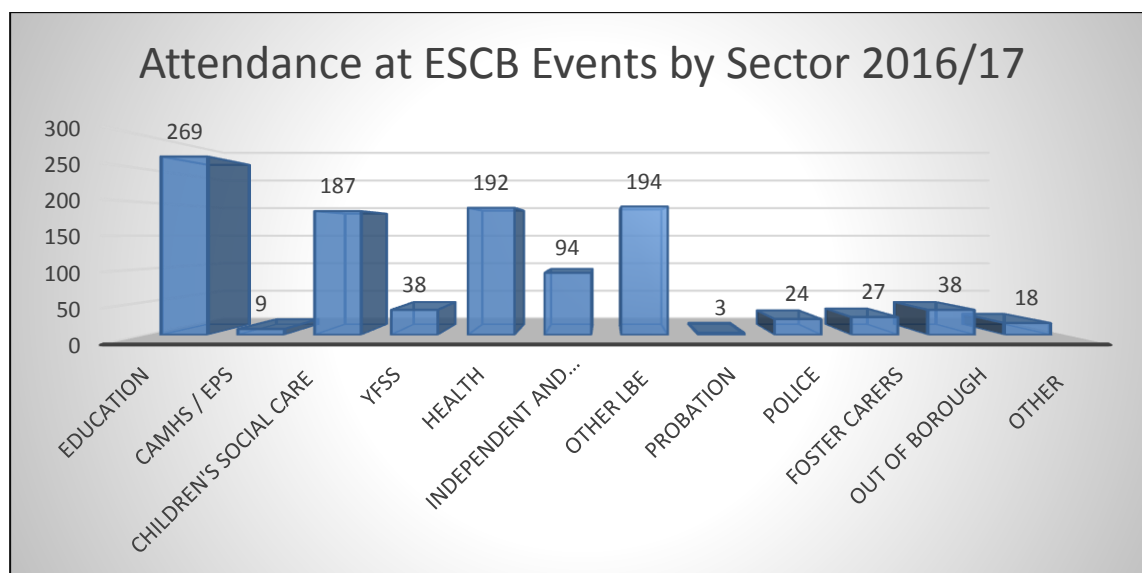
Enfield is implementing Signs of Safety to re-position the children's service at the centre of cutting edge social work research and practice and to have a clear practice based model that can be used across all professions.

ESCB Learning Events are broadly open to everyone in the Enfield children's workforce, with detailed guidance offered as to who should attend which courses according to role and responsibilities available on the [website](#).

14 different topics were covered during this course of the year. These have all been generally very well attended. The topics are listed below.

- Child exploitation online protection (CEOP) – online safety
- Child protection – introduction
- Child protection – elected members
- Complex neglect
- Child sexual exploitation (CSE) training
- Direct work with children and young people
- Domestic abuse – working with families
- Learning from serious case reviews
- Managing allegations against staff
- Parental substance misuse
- Significant harm
- Signs of safety
- Single point of entry (SPEO) workshop
- Workshop to raise awareness of prevent (wrap)

A total of 1093 places have been filled at ESCB Learning events this year. This is a small decrease from the 1118 places that were filled last year. Attendees have been from the following sectors:



- There has been very good engagement from the Education sector this year with 269 people attending events. This is, to some extent explained by the large number of Signs of Safety sessions that were delivered from schools during the year, but there have also been significant numbers of school staff on other courses.

- There has also been very strong attendance from Children's Social Care, which is a positive step. Consistently, feedback from courses is positive about the multi-agency nature of ESCB courses and the input and attendance of social care staff is particularly valued
- There has been a notable increase in the numbers of Police colleagues attending training sessions for the second successive year. There were some bespoke CSE courses specifically for Police colleagues, but they have also attended a number of other sessions in significant numbers, particularly the Modern Slavery Conference.
- Attendance from Probation colleagues has fallen, which is probably reflective of the various changes that have taken place in that sector this year.
- No courses had to be cancelled this year, which reflects an overall positive engagement with the programme

During the course of the year a total of £8,654 was spent on learning and development. This is inclusive of trainer costs and venue hire. As in previous years we have worked hard to ensure that costs are kept as low as possible, primarily by engaging staff from across the partnership to deliver the training at no additional cost and by utilising London Borough of Enfield venues wherever possible.

Evaluation and Impact

Attendees at all learning events are sent a link to an online course evaluation which they are asked to complete as soon as possible. Certificates of attendance are only issued on completion of the evaluation. Completion rates are improving but further work is still required to maximise the value of the evaluations.

In addition to answering questions about their overall perception of the course attendees are asked whether they think the course will be effective in improving their practice.

This data provides extremely helpful information both about the relevance and quality of the course itself and about the skills and knowledge of trainers we commission. The effectiveness of ESCB training is also

Basic Child Protection Course

'The course, contents and delivery were very well organised, the trainer was very knowledgeable and shared her expertise and skills with the participants'

– Secondary School Teacher

Online Safety Course

'this was great training, very interesting and relevant to my role and generally in life'

– Change & Challenge Worker

monitored through the quality assurance and audit programme and other activities such as a recent Signs of Safety audit. Findings are incorporated into an ongoing Training Needs Analysis and are used to inform ongoing training and development.

All courses delivered this year have been evaluated positively.

All evaluation reports are sent to Training providers and all are analysed by the Training and Development Group. This analysis has resulted in amendments to course content over the course of the year and will inform the Training Needs analysis for 2017/18. Some providers, for example, will not be commissioned again, whilst others will be considered for further training based on their feedback

A breakdown of attendance and evaluation of all courses can be found in the [ESCB Learning and Development Annual report 2016/17](#)

In the coming year the key priority of the Training and Development subgroup, in addition to ensuring the training programme is robust and flexible to meet the needs of the workforce, will be to improve our understanding and ability to evidence the impact of training primarily through a structured programme of 'follow-up' which will target both training attendees and their managers.

ESCB Finance and Resources

All LSCB member organisations have an obligation to provide LSCBs with reliable resources (including finance) that enable the LSCB to be well organised and effective. Resources include staff time and additional support such as attending Board meetings, co-chairing the subgroups which support the work of the Board, and contributing to Serious Case Reviews.

In 2016/17 the Board had a budget of £184,910 which was made up of contributions from our partners. Approximately **78%** of the total budget was contributed by the London Borough of Enfield and the CCG was the next highest contributor with approximately **9%** of the total budget. It has been noted across London that the level contribution to Safeguarding Children Boards from the Metropolitan Police is significantly lower than that made by the other large urban Police Forces in England. Enfield Safeguarding Children Board supports the ongoing efforts of the London Safeguarding Children Board to address and seek a resolution to this issue.

The ESCB managed to spend within budget during the year. For 2016/17 the board is asking for the same level of contributions from its partners to ensure funding is adequate to continue to deliver the wide range of learning and development opportunities including a conference in early 2017, to ensure there is contingency available for any Serious Case Reviews that may be required and to support the transition towards any borough-wide Safeguarding structures that may require implementation following the [DfE](#)

Complex Neglect Course

'Fantastic course that could really have done with being over 2 days to cover all areas more thoroughly. The course leader had a great style of teaching that helped to visual scenarios. It is a shame that this could not be explored further to gain an increased insight in tackling the rising problem of neglect'

[commissioned Alan Wood Review of Local safeguarding Boards.](#)

Statements from ESCB Partner Agencies

The ESCB is very much a partner organisation. Whilst much of this report focuses on what has been undertaken at a partnership level it is important too to ensure that each member agency is undertaking effective safeguarding work individually. This section focuses on what each partner had achieved in 2016/17 and what impact it has had on the lives of children and young people. Each agency is asked four questions;

Enfield Clinical Commissioning Group

What did we do?

- Organised a Child Sexual Exploitation event with the ex LSCB chair from Rotherham
- Expanded the Identification, Referral to Improve Safety (IRIS) project for Domestic Violence to Community Pharmacists, Dental surgeries and Optometrists
- Co-ordinated and delivered 4 level 3 safeguarding children updates for GPs
- Facilitated quarterly safeguarding lead GP forums
- Continued to hold quarterly strategic safeguarding committees for Named leads from each health organisation, including independent health organisations
- Organised a 2-day safeguarding supervision skills course for Named leads in health organisations
- Ensured regular partnership meetings with social care to improve collaboration and representation of health views in child safeguarding cases
- Undertook a primary care safeguarding audit

How well did we do it?

- Child sexual exploitation training event positively evaluated by delegates including GPs, health visitors, school nurses and CAMHS staff
- Increase in the number of IRIS trained GP practices from 25 to 37
- 205 additional staff trained in the identification and management of Domestic Violence and abuse across GP practices, community pharmacists, and optometrists
- 95 GPs trained to Level 3 with quarterly updates on safeguarding children, adults at risk and Prevent
- 18 named safeguarding leads in children and adults at risk trained in safeguarding supervision across health organisations
- All GP practices participated in the audit of safeguarding

How did we make a difference?

- Improved knowledge through CSE event on the complexity of the recognition and management of child sexual exploitation
- Increased understanding of practitioners on the recognition of Domestic Violence and abuse and the referral pathways for victims/survivors
- Ensured named leads for each organisation, including the GP safeguarding leads had opportunity to meet regularly to share practice issues and receive updates on developments in local and national guidance
- Ensured named leads for safeguarding were equipped with the necessary skills to deliver effective safeguarding supervision of staff in their organisations

- CP medical pathway developed following discussion at partnership meetings
- Developed action plans for GP practices where gaps were identified within the audit process

What are we going to do next year?

- Organise a safeguarding conference for the health economy covering safeguarding children, adults and Prevent
- Continue to work with the IRIS project lead on increasing the numbers of referrals for services and the GP practices trained
- Embed the changes planned to review the deaths of children with a learning disability
- Raise awareness around Prevent and its links with children
- Increase representation and views of health professional in safeguarding assessments
- Increase capacity for input into child protection medical assessments
- Implement and monitor the action plans for individual GP practices following their audit

North Middlesex University Hospital

What did we do?

- Gangs – 2 gangs youth workers in post to cover Enfield and Haringey; additional support provided by the Tottenham Foundation youth workers; additional youth worker to work additional evening within A&E; audit undertaken on review of service which was positive from service users
- Early adopter site for CP –IS which is now embedded within paediatric A&E
- Established the FGM clinic supported by specialist Midwife for FGM
- Established the substance misuse clinic for pregnant women supported by COMPASS
- Development of a vulnerable woman clinic for high risk pregnant women
- Dr Hann gave a presentation to the December 2016 Enfield LSCB Board meeting on children who leave the A&E Department before treatment to give assurances around safeguarding responsibilities
- The NMUH Child Protection Policy was reviewed by the Named Doctor and ratified in April 2016. The Policy has hyperlinks to the LSCB website
- Dr Hann undertook a re audit on skeletal survey's since changing the skeletal survey policy. Comparing 2014/15 to 2015/2016 more skeletal surveys have been performed but more fractures have been picked up on skeletal survey and therefore there is justification for continuing the new policy and expanding our findings to other hospitals.
- Adult mental health services undertook an audit in relation to asking if the client had children to highlight the impact mental ill health will have on children in the family. Findings highlighted that very few were asked about children in the family. A tool has been developed that the question is asked as a mandatory question at assessment. This will support the 'Think Family' model and improve number and quality of referrals for children whose parents present with mental ill health
- An audit was undertaken to find out what adolescents think of the new adolescent grab bags with information on a range of local services such as sexual health clinics and mental health services that are currently being handed out from paediatric A&E -some of the hardest to reach young people who present to the ED. Many young people found the information provided useful and said would use /also share information with friends.
- The team participated in Enfield LA Stay Safe Week with presentations / stalls in the atrium daily - domestic violence; honour base violence; FGM; trafficking adults and children
- The team participated in JTAI preparation work and themed audits with both Boroughs

- The team were nominated and finalists in the Trust annual awards for their support to delivering training across the organisation on child protection
- Supervision with key staff developed and embedded
- Dr Hann has sourced funding for a new multidisciplinary child sexual abuse and sexual exploitation course sponsored by the royal school of medicine which allows trainees to role play with actors how they would go about helping victims to disclose abuse, as Operation Yewtree and abuse in Rotherham, Barnsley and the north showed there was a lack of training in this area. The course has been run 4 times and forensic examiners, youth workers, paediatric doctors and police have attended. Presenting at the International association of medical education August 2017.

How well did we do it?

- The team has seen an increase in the complexity of cases both in paediatrics and maternity. The team has therefore needed to ensure we continue to engage with our partner agencies across Boroughs to ensure voice of the child / unborn baby is paramount. The Named Doctor has formally escalated on individual cases where concerns / disagreements in decision making have arisen.
- Continue to engage with partner agencies with cross Borough initiatives – CSE and Gangs
- The CQC Report following the visit in September 2016 and published December 2016 reported that female genital mutilation (FGM) projects had been well managed and that staff they spoke with were fully aware of these safeguarding issues
- The CQC Report following the visit in September 2016 and published December 2016 reported that that gang-related violence projects had been well managed and that staff they spoke with were fully aware of these safeguarding issues
- Maternity services have seen an increase in the number of complex cases. Maternity services through the work of the Named Midwife and the Safeguarding Midwifery advisor were highlighted as good practice within the Haringey Serious Case review report findings of Child R. “The midwifery staff are to be commended for their persistence in trying to ascertain information about the circumstances for mother”

How did we make a difference?

- Raised awareness in local community and nationally regarding Gangs work
- Improved Staff knowledge and awareness with improved compliance levels
- An example of improved outcomes for a service user was for a parent who attended A&E following what was later deemed to be a domestic incident. Concern was raised by the fracture clinic nurse to the safeguarding advisor as the injury and history were felt not to be consistent. A referral to social care was made which identified that there were previous concerns around honour based violence towards this mother but also concerns following referral raised that this maybe significant domestic violence from the partner and social care therefore were able to undertake further assessment of the family in regards to the risk to the children.
- An example of improved outcome for a young person with a long-term condition who had been admitted with significant self-harm and following referral to the gangs youth worker was themselves associated with gangs although not a member. On-going multi-disciplinary working with all partner agencies by the specialist team managing their care and the safeguarding team has ensure that appropriate support / referrals have been made to support the young person but also the family including the sibling who is at high risk of harm due to gang involvement.
- An example of improved outcomes for a young person affected by gangs was the admission of a 15-year-old male with 6 stab wounds admitted to the ward. Contact was made with the youth

worker who was able to see in the A&E department and then the following day on the ward. They were also able to support him with contact / involvement with the Trident police team who were able to work directly with the young person on the ward resulting in a later conviction in Court for the perpetrators. Social care was also able to work with the family and support them upon discharge with the family being re housed into another area for their own safety by police and social care.

What are we going to do next year?

- Domestic violence – the Trust has identified the need for IDVA's to be working in A&E and maternity services and is sourcing funding from CCG / partner agencies
- Continued working with partner agencies around CSE and Gangs
- Development of CSE champions within the organisation
- Development of DV champions within the organisation as part of the Trust DV action plan for children and adult services
- Continued development and expansion of the FGM Iris clinic to support non- pregnant women
- To support the introduction of CP-IS in the maternity service
- To support the introduction of CP-IS in adult A&E for 16 – 18 year olds
- Continue working with partner agencies on the development of perinatal mental health service for pregnant mothers.

Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Mental Health NHS Trust

What did we do?

- We have been successful in securing funding from NHS England to pilot a domestic abuse project which aims to demonstrate the need for Independent Domestic Violence Advisors in mental health settings.
- Domestic Abuse training is given to all staff at Corporate Induction and our referrals to domestic abuse agencies continue to rise
- We have improved oversight of data relating to safeguarding children activity across the Trust for the past 12 months.
- We have worked closely with the patient safety team and patient experience to ensure a triangulated approach to safeguarding.
- We have raised the profile of PREVENT cross the organisation and Healthwrap3 training is included for all staff at Corporate Induction
- The aims and objectives of our safeguarding work plan for 2016-17 (year 1) have been largely achieved.
- We have reviewed our safeguarding children training requirement and expanded the number of staff who are required to complete level 3 training ensuring a competent workforce.
- Level 1 and 2 safeguarding children training has consistently remained at a compliance rate of 85% or above.
- Effective partnership working across the three boroughs of Barnet, Enfield and Haringey has continued.
- We have ensured that appropriate staff undertake specialist Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) champions training.
- We are compliant with the reporting requirements in regard to FGM.

- We have actively contributed to Serious Case Review learning events and provided training in complex issues such as self-harm

How well did we do it?

- We are leading on a domestic abuse project to ensure a better response to domestic violence and abuse in mental health settings
- We have a much-improved data set to allow us to interpret and analyse our safeguarding activity.
- We have raised the profile of PREVENT cross the organisation and Healthwrap3 training is included for all staff at Corporate Induction; and we have worked closely with the local Channel Panels to ensure information regarding concerns relating to potential radicalisation of young people is shared effectively.

A high proportion of our staff are trained at the appropriate level of safeguarding children training

How did we make a difference?

- We have ensured effective partnership working
- We have raised profile of safeguarding children across the trust
- We have strengthened safeguarding arrangements
- We have consistent safeguarding team members in post to support staff
- We have ensured more staff received level 3 training so that they have a better understanding of their safeguarding responsibilities.

What are we going to do next year?

- We will develop our safeguarding intranet site and maximise the communication mechanisms currently in place
- We will continue to raise the profile of the safeguarding champions across the organisation
- We will develop a safeguarding children pocket sized booklet for staff reference
- We will review the function of our safeguarding surgeries as a learning forum.
- We will organise a Trust wide safeguarding conference
- We will continue to ensure that adult mental health workers routinely consider the impact of parental mental health on the wellbeing of children by re- launching a “Think Family” approach
- We will review our safeguarding Children Policy to ensure chaperone requirements are clear in view of Miles Bradbury case & Jay enquiry/Verita check list.
- We will develop a Trust wide FGM policy to ensure staff are aware of requirements

Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust

What have we done?

The Integrated safeguarding team is well established, motivated, enthusiastic and working well to deliver a think family approach to safeguarding. This means that where concerns about children are identified the care response provided by the Trust may call upon the expertise of the safeguarding professionals, adult and child, as well as the midwifery safeguarding specialist, the learning disability liaison nurses and the independent domestic & sexual violence advisors.

There is a robust governance structure in place which is led at executive level by the group chief nurse and overseen by the clinical commissioning group representatives for safeguarding via the quarterly integrated safeguarding committee.

Safeguarding children work undertaken and key achievements in 2016 – 2017

- Annual audit plan in place agreed by and monitored by the integrated safeguarding committee quarterly.
- Implementing the national child protection information sharing system (CP-IS) in unscheduled care settings at Chase Farm hospital, the Royal Free hospital and Barnet hospital to enable staff to identify all children who attend who are subject to a child protection plan or who are a looked after child.
- Robust process to ensuring attendance and contribution at child protection conferences from appropriate staff.
- Consistently high training figures for all levels of training
- Prevent level 2 or WRAP training is now part of the mandatory training requirements (MAST) and training rates will be monitored by the integrated safeguarding committee
- Consolidated the role of the independent domestic and sexual violence advisors at both the Royal Free hospital and Barnet hospital through increased training which has led to an increase in referral.
- Joint working between maternity service and the liaison nurses for patients with learning disability to increase the midwives understanding of and confidence in working with parents who have a learning disability or parents who have a child with a learning disability.
- Successful and highly evaluated annual safeguarding conference “tackling domestic violence- what can health services do?” in June 2016 attended by over 100 staff.
- Contribution to serious case reviews and implementation of recommendations and learning where required, actions and learning are monitored by the safeguarding committee.
- Positive engagement and working relationships with external partners and safeguarding boards that allow challenge
- Revision and implementation of relevant safeguarding policies overseen by the safeguarding committee
- Strengthening of the child death reporting pathway to ensure internal and external processes are followed
- The first RFL integrated safeguarding team newsletter was published in early 2017. Subsequent editions will be published twice a year and feature relevant practice updates and local and national priorities.
- Successful recruitment into vacant posts

How well did we do it?

- Consistently high training figures for all levels of training
- Highly evaluated level 3 training which is delivered by a full range of internal and external colleagues from across the partner agencies
- strengthened reporting and governance structure to the integrated safeguarding committee
- CQC inspection in February 2016 which rated all three hospitals in the Trust as good identified that staff were aware of their safeguarding responsibility and could give examples of when they would need to raise concerns

- In February, the community midwifery team at RFH was visited by the executive director, supporting people as part of the Camden SCB governance visits. He identified good links with the children centres and health visitor, good understanding of FGM, the work of the IDSVA's and training both single agency and multi-agency is appropriate, accessible and well supported by the Trust.

How did we make a difference?

- The integrated team approach means that the team work closely together to support all members of the family when concerns are identified are more
- During 2016/17 we delivered thirty three safeguarding children Level 3 update seminars in house covering a full range of topics.
- Participants who attended training on child sexual exploitation, domestic violence and Harm Online where asked to assess their confidence to recognise and respond to concerns. The responses ranged from the lowest 4.72 to the highest 5.66 (out of 1 – 6) demonstrating improved confidence and ability to recognising and responding to the safeguarding concerns discussed in the seminar.
- Evaluation demonstrates that midwives report feeling more confident talking to women about concerns around domestic abuse and FGM after training from the IDSVA's.
- Where the audit programme identified gaps in processes these have been addressed
- Due to the implementation of CP-IS we can identify a greater number of vulnerable children who access unscheduled care at Barnet hospital, Chase farm hospital and the Royal free hospital
- Better support for women with learning disabilities who are pregnant

What are we going to next year?

- A revised annual audit plan will be presented to the integrated safeguarding committee for approval in October 2017.
- As an integrated safeguarding team we will set out our three year aims and work plan in to be presented to the integrated safeguarding committee in January 2018
- Develop an activity dashboard that will provide the assurance on a monthly basis via the patient safety and clinical outcomes meeting to each hospital that is part of the group model.
- Ensure that actions identified in the section 11 audit are achieved prior to the next section 11 submissions and challenge event.
- Host safeguarding conference in March 2018 with a focus on early help and think family
- Implement CP-IS into the maternity areas

Enfield Children and Young People's Service (ECYPS)

What have we done?

In the past year, we have:

- Carried out approximately 444 disclosure and barring checks.
- Offered 43 training programmes

- Had 655 people attend training
- Trained staff from 73 organisations.

Training programmes offered included:

- Basic Child Protection
 - Child Protection and Diversity
 - FGM
 - The Impact of Parental Mental Health on Children and Young People
 - Child Protection Refresher
 - Mindfulness
 - Suicide Prevention
 - Mindful and Emotional Communication
- We have participated in 7 community events – disseminating safeguarding literature
 - We have run 7 subject specific forums which all included safeguarding information.
 - We have supported 11 organisations with the development of their policies.
 - We have attended weekly SPOE meetings.
 - We have become board members of Children England, to increase the ability of the sector to raise issues of concern with government, with the first all-day meeting being held with Jonathan Slater of DfE in the summer of 2017.
 - Together with Dazu and Scribeasy, we have developed a mental wellbeing programme linked into a literacy programme for use across primary schools. This is now being modified and developed for commercial use.

How well did we do it?

All training courses are evaluated and there were no negative evaluations of any programmes – but suggestions for future training programmes resulting from evaluations have been actioned and future programmes organised accordingly.

Forum meetings also provide attendees with extensive information packs as well as the opportunity to engage with external speakers.

How did we make a difference?

- The range of training programmes allow staff to upskill and refresh. Training programmes are offered during the day, evenings and at weekends to ensure that we reach the widest possible audience at times that are convenient.
- Staff feel more confident in dealing with families and making appropriate referrals.

What are we going to next year?

- With funding from CCG, we are expanding our mental health training throughout the autumn to include self-harm, bereavement, resilience and mental health first aid, to enhance the current programme.
- We are planning the roll out of our Scribeasy mental wellbeing programme across local schools, prior to the product being available nationally and internationally.

- Our standard safeguarding training offer will remain unchanged with the addition of a new standalone training programme on domestic abuse.

MET Police Child Abuse Investigation Team (CAIT)

What did we do?

- The CAIT team based at Barnet Police Station covers Barnet and Enfield Boroughs.
- The team investigated over 1500 crimes against children in the reporting period - 750 of these cases had a venue in Enfield Borough. The number includes numerous allegations of rape and sexual assault. The majority of the sexual assault cases were non-recent which bring complications and lack of investigative opportunities. Every case involving children has a strategy discussion prior to a S47 decision and deployment. Numerous referrals were made and Police Conference Liaison Officers attended multi agency meetings to share information and decide action plans on all children on child protection plans. Daily liaison was made with CSC health and education partners

How well did we do it?

- CAIT officers have all received bespoke training and attend multi agency meetings demonstrating an acute understanding of safeguarding and legislation available to partners to protect children.
- High risk cases are monitored on a daily basis at the Daily Management Meeting held at 10am every day. Actions are handed out at DCI / DI level to ensure effective progress in cases. Cases likely to receive media attention are discussed at Chief officer level at "Met Grip and Pace" meetings held at 11am, 4pm and 9pm daily. DI's attend bi monthly performance meetings where performance in many areas is scrutinised seeking to achieve annual targets set by MOPAC/ MPS.

How did we make a difference?

- The protection and safeguarding of children is difficult to quantify in figures. The MPS have directed CAITs to concentrate on safeguarding rather than focus of sanction detection rates or convictions. However, in order to protect children across Enfield police have used their powers daily. Children are regularly taken into police protection, powers of arrest and prosecution used in conjunction with partners in the CPS.
- As above all investigations are joint with CSC to ensure the best outcomes for children and families.

What are we going to do next year?

- During the course of 2017/ 2018 the investigation of Child Abuse for the children of Enfield is likely to be transferred from the CAIT teams to new multi Borough Protecting Vulnerable People (PVP) hubs. Following a report by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabularies (HMIC) which noted that there was no specific officer with the lead responsibility for the safeguarding of children across London it is likely that a PVP lead will be appointed.

- This transitional period could be difficult to manage depending on timings as the CAIT teams are finding recruitment and retention of staff challenging due to the uncertain future.

MET Police Enfield

What did we do?

Identified the need for problem solving approach regarding frequent missing children, understanding why they go missing and what interventions are possible; encourage curiosity about why they go missing and where they go? Who they associate with and what do they do when missing? Listened to the voice of the child ensuring the child has been spoken to at the earliest opportunity. Ensured proportionate action is taken to identify offenders, and assess what risk they pose to the victim and others. Learning disseminated through borough commander updates and Detective Inspector public protection briefings to emergency response teams. Operation Beat now live all dedicated ward officers now briefed on those registered sex offenders living on their wards.

How well did we do it?

Officers from across the borough received specific training relation to Missing, CSE and Sexual offences. There were also a number of training days lead by the local authority with officers from public protection in attendance. Vulnerable victims are now discussed at the daily management meeting to ensure risk, harm or threat is identified and gripped at the earliest opportunity. CSE reporting is up on last year as well as those children missing which is down to a greater understanding by police of the issues posed. Signs and symptoms are now spotted earlier by officers allowing swifter support and risk management to the victims. MPS Intelligence sharing both internal and external has been reviewed with improved protocols to remove blockages.

How did we make a difference?

Enhanced partnership working including a new approach to MASE is in place, young people who are or at risk of being sexually exploited have varying levels of needs. They have multiple vulnerabilities and therefore an appropriate multi agency response and effective coordination and communication is essential. By treating sexually exploited children as victims of abuse and not offenders is making the difference. Police must direct resources against the coercers and sex abusers to remove the trigger and protect our most vulnerable.

What are we going to do next year?

MPS media department will be working with design agency on internal and external communication campaign to ensure safeguarding messages have the right look and feel. Jigsaw teams will be briefed on new visitation and reactive management protocol. Enfield is anticipated to move towards a safeguarding command early next year. This will bring child abuse, sexual offences and CSE under one governance.

This arrangement will see a more joined up approach to improving victim care and reducing red tape for partners.

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