

SOUTHWARK SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD

ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019





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Foreword

Following the passing of the Children and Social Work Act in April 2017 and the step down of the Board's independent chair in July 2017, the partnership agreed that during this period of transition we would afford ourselves the space to reflect, review and agree the best approach moving forward and thus during 2018/19 I continue to be the interim chair of Southwark's Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB). This annual report sets out the work that the Board has undertaken over the last year and analyses the partnership's performance in safeguarding the children and young people of Southwark.

Southwark's Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB) continues to drive local multi agency working to ensure continuously improving services and outcomes for children and young people at risk of or experiencing harm or neglect. A culture of shared responsibility and problem-solving has been honed across the partnership and supports our response to changing needs and pressures, including challenges arising from budget pressures and learning from serious case reviews. The SSCB continues to cultivate a mature ethos of joint working and partnership dedicated to understanding how effectively we safeguard, how we can do things differently and what it means for the development of our local workforce.

It is recognised that the SSCB has strong and effective governance arrangements to ensure that all partners are fulfilling their statutory duties to safeguard children. This has resulted in a strong focus on safeguarding children, clear priorities and a culture of openness and healthy challenge across the partnership. This was demonstrated through the Board's Ofsted inspection result of Good. Specific reference was made to how as a Board we embrace continuous improvement, recognise areas for development and respond to ongoing emerging safeguarding issues across the partnership.

Over 2018/19, the SSCB has supported and challenged safeguarding practice and key local priorities, leading to improved partnership ways of working and enabling the partnership to adapt to changing needs. This report reviews the activity taken by the partnership over the past year, and sets out our priorities for the forthcoming year.

As we continue to transition from a 'Board' to a 'partnership' I am confident our approach will remain collegiate. I want to thank all partners for their continued contribution to the Board and I want to acknowledge and praise the strong working relationships across the partnership, which I have no doubt will continue as we move into 2019/20.

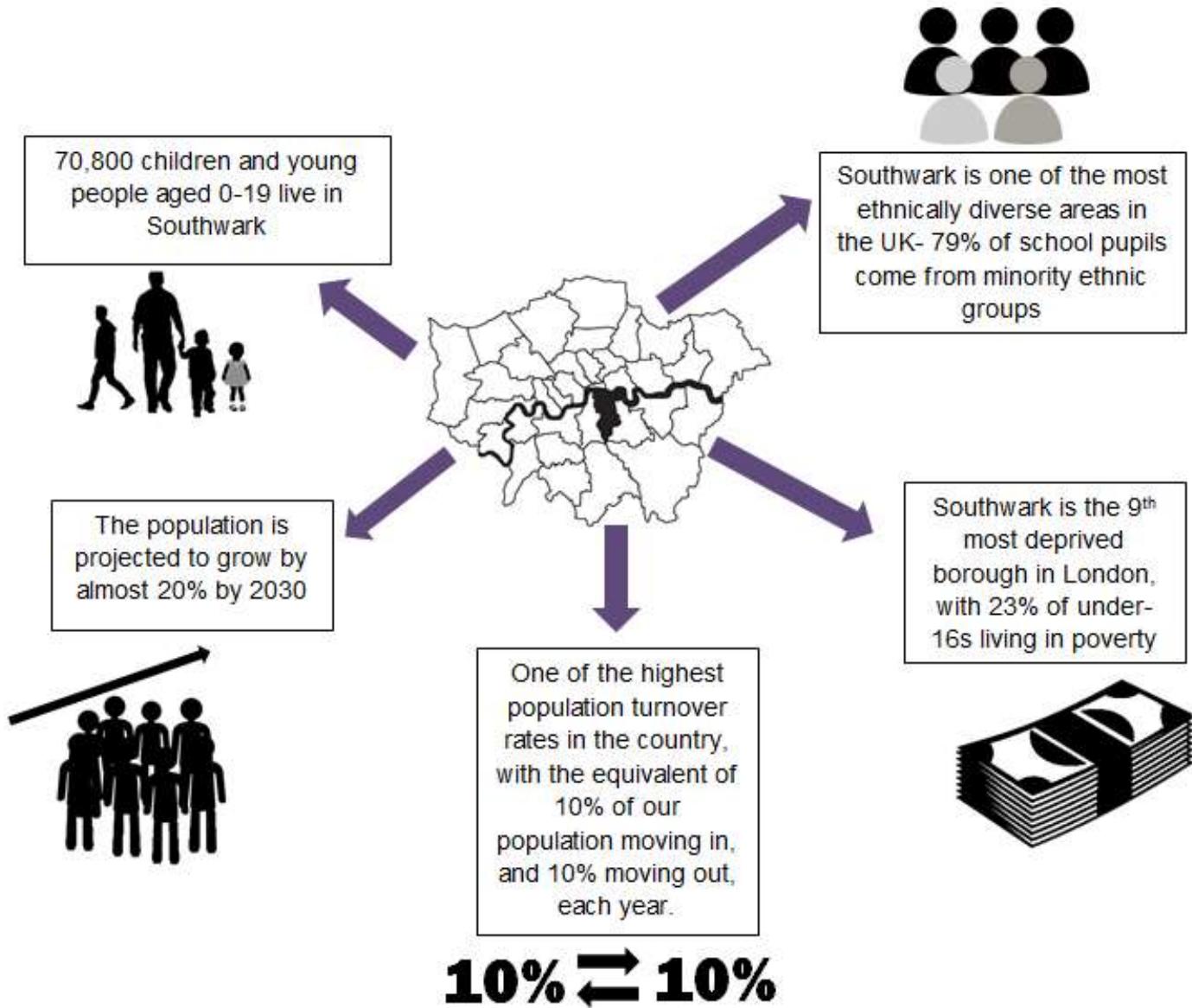
David Quirke-Thornton

Strategic Director for Children and Adults, Southwark Council

Interim Chair, Southwark Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB)



1. The Southwark Local Safeguarding Context



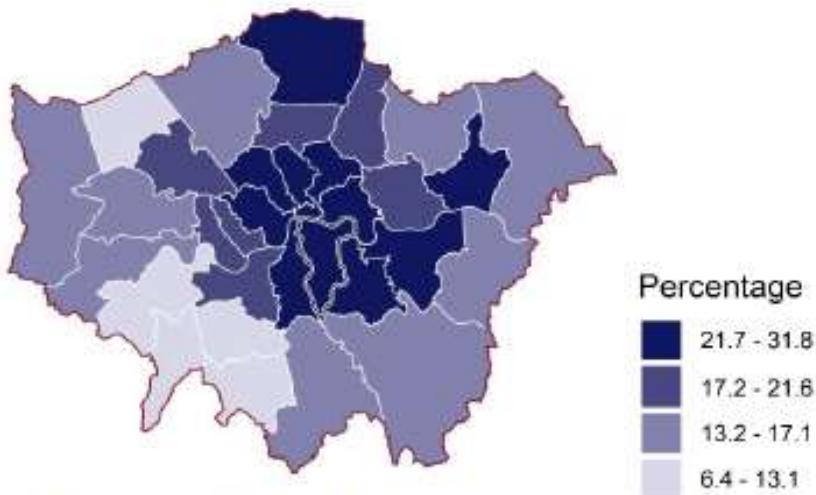
	Local	Region	England
Live births (2017)	4,381	126,308	646,794
Children aged 0-4 years (2017)	21,100 6.7%	623,700 7.1%	3,384,900 6.1%
Children aged 0-19 years (2017)	70,800 22.5%	2,184,500 24.8%	13,169,100 23.7%
Children aged 0-19 years in 2027 (projected)	76,500 22.4%	2,367,500 24.7%	13,904,800 23.7%
School children from minority ethnic groups (2018)	32,034 79.0%	914,322 73.7%	2,544,753 32.3%
School pupils with social, emotional and mental health needs (2018)	1,089 2.6%	30,776 2.4%	193,657 2.4%
Children living in poverty under 16 years (2016)	23.2%	18.8%	17.0%

Children in Southwark

From Public Health England Child Health Profiles 2019

Children living in poverty

Map of London, with Southwark outlined, showing the relative levels of children living in poverty.



Map contains Ordnance Survey data.



Our Vision

All children in Southwark have the right to be safe and protected from harm. We will work together to protect children and young people through high quality services that enable children to reach their full potential and achieve the best possible outcomes.

Key Strategic Questions for the SSCB

- Is the help provided effective? How do we know our interventions are making a positive difference? How do we know all agencies are doing everything they can to ensure children and young people are safe? This includes early help
- Are all partner agencies meeting their statutory responsibilities as set out in Working Together?
- Do all partner agencies quality assure practice and is there evidence of learning and improving practice?
- Is training on early help and safeguarding monitored and evaluated and is there evidence of training impacting on practice? This includes multi-agency training.

Responsibilities

The SSCB will ensure all agencies are aware of and undertake their key safeguarding responsibilities:

- All those who work with children and young people know what to do if they are concerned about possible harm.
- When concerns about a child's welfare or concerns about harm are reported, action is taken quickly and the right support is provided at the right time. This covers the spectrum from early help when issues first arise through to emergency action needed to keep children and young people safe.
- Agencies that provide services for children and young people ensure they are safe and monitor service quality and impact.

2018/19 SSCB Priorities

Thematic priorities

- Exploitation (specifically CSE and criminal exploitation/county lines)
- Knife crime and serious youth violence
- Vulnerable parents
- SEND (specifically 0-25 disability pathway)
- Neglect

Priority groups

- Safeguarding children with SEND
- Looked after children
- Private Fostering
- Community, faith and voluntary sector involvement

Governance & Review

- Core child protection review and challenge
- National safeguarding policy developments and new requirements
- Inspections of safeguarding arrangements and practice
- New local partnership arrangements

Learning & Development

- Learning and development framework
- SSCB training programme and its impact
- Embedding performance and quality framework
- Serious Case and Multi Agency Management reviews



2. The Board

2.1 Our Partners:

Partnership work is vital to the successful delivery of safeguarding services and interventions in Southwark. We remain confident that safeguarding is at the heart of the services delivered by statutory and voluntary services in Southwark, and we also remain committed to maintaining an open dialogue with all our partners, and working jointly with partners to ensure the best, person-centred outcomes for children and young people.

Details of the Southwark Safeguarding Children's Board membership can be found on the following page.

New Partnership Arrangements

Following the [new Children and Social Work Act \(2017\)](#), and the publication of the new [Working Together](#) guidance in March 2018, during the early part of 2018/19 the partnership reviewed how best to implement the guidance. A new Safeguarding Executive Group has been established, comprising of the three statutory partners (the police, the local authority and the CCG). A comprehensive review of the subgroups of the Board has been undertaken and as we move into 2019/20 these will be streamlined to ensure they are focussed appropriately and meet the objectives set by the Board. Full details of our new arrangements will be published in 2019/20.

Metropolitan Police Reorganisation

During 2018/19 the local Southwark Metropolitan Police Service merged with that of a neighbouring borough, Lambeth, to form one Basic Command Unit (BCU).

The BCU will have one single point of access for safeguarding-related referrals from across the borough.

Each investigation team will incorporate crimes of child abuse, sexual abuse, domestic abuse and hate crime. Each team will initially be split in to four pods to maintain the specialist skills. Over time and with sufficient training, the vision is that teams become multi-skilled and can be utilised across all safeguarding disciplines.

Moving away from a model where safeguarding is only the responsibility of one command unit to the responsibility of all police officers and staff will allow the MPS to more effectively support victims.



Board membership

Southwark Council	CCG/NHS	Police	Other Organisations
Cabinet Member for Children, Schools and Adult Care	Director of Quality and Chief Nurse (CCG)	Borough Commander	Borough Commander, London Fire Brigade
Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Public Health	Designated Nurse, Safeguarding Children, SCCG	Superintendent	Assistant Chief Probation Officer
Strategic Director of Children's and Adults' Services	Head of Safeguarding children (GSTT)		London Community Rehabilitation Company
Strategic Director of Housing and Modernisation	Head of Nursing, Safeguarding Children (KCH)		CEO, Community Southwark
Director of Children and Families	Named Nurse for Safeguarding Children (SLAM)		Primary and Secondary School Heads
Director of Communities			Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Services (CAFCASS)
Director of Education			Lay Members
Director of Commissioning			
Director of Public Health			

2.2 Board Subgroups:

Southwark Safeguarding Children's Board (SSCB)

Interim Chair: Director of Children and Adults' Services, Southwark Council

Practice Development and Learning (PDL)

Chair: Head of Organisation Transformation, Southwark Council

Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)

Chair: Lead Public Health Consultant, Lambeth and Southwark CCG

Audit and Learning Subgroup

- Designated Nurse, Safeguarding children- CCG
- Assistant Director, Quality, Strategy and Performance- Southwark Council

Community Engagement

Chair: CEO, Community Southwark

Serious Case Review (SCR)

Chair: Director of Children's Services, Southwark Council

CSE Strategic

Joint chairs:

- Director of Children's Services, Southwark Council
- Police Superintendent

Human Resources (HR)

Chair: Head of Schools' Human Resources

Education

Chair: Director of Education, Southwark Council



Main Board



SSCB Subgroups



Joint SSAB/SSCB Subgroups

Practice Development and Learning (PDL) Subgroup:

The Safeguarding Practice Development and Learning subgroup is a joint subgroup of the Children's and Adults' Safeguarding Boards. It is chaired by Southwark Council's Head of Organisation Transformation.

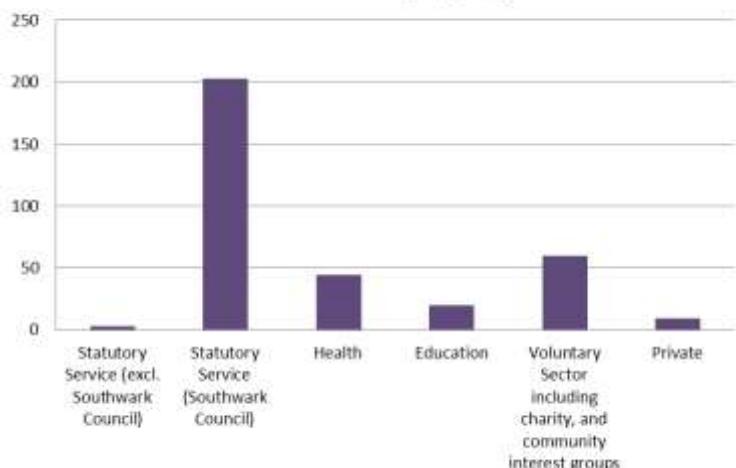
Throughout 2018/19 the SSCB provided 45 face-to-face training sessions, training 340 individuals from 81 organisations. 368 e-learning modules were completed in year, across both children's and adults' safeguarding.

Whilst the SSAB prides itself on its comprehensive training offer it also critically scrutinises the attendance across the partnership. At the start of the year a survey was carried out to better understand the reason behind non-attendance at some of the multi-agency safeguarding training organised by the Southwark Safeguarding Boards. A total of 238 individuals responded to the survey, from a variety of partner organisations. Responses are summarised in the chart on the right.

A review of the 2017/18 offer was carried out, including learning from local and national case reviews, local priorities and developments in practice. Partner organisations assessed the offer against their own learning and development needs.

This work was used to shape a programme of learning for 2018/19. Going forward, it has been agreed to procure the training offer over a three-year period, to achieve value for money and a stable

Attendance at training by organisation



Responses to why partners don't attend training organised by Southwark Safeguarding Boards



learning offer. It is important to note that procuring over a three-year period means that we have an ongoing relationship with a learning provider, it does not mean that we lose flexibility to alter the learning offer if and when our requirements change.

Looking ahead, the learning offer for 2019/20 will have a greater emphasis on e-learning, as requested by partners and the Boards, with partners in the PDL subgroup reviewing the content of courses to make sure that they are tailored to





Southwark's needs. The e-learning development will be supported by an action learning set approach, with shorter, seminar-type sessions. These will be both daytime and twilight sessions, to facilitate attendance from the faith, voluntary and community sector. The learning offer will be scheduled in partner buildings across the borough, to share resources and ease access.

Appropriate learning resources from partner organisations have been incorporated into the offer.

Course subject matter, course material and available e-learning will be reviewed on an ongoing basis to make sure that they meet the partnership requirements.

Community Engagement Subgroup (joint with SSAB):

During 2018/19 the subgroup focused on the planning, coordination and delivery of community engagement events determined by the priorities of each of the boards. Specifically, the sub-group has looked to engage on areas where there are gaps in knowledge (from a voluntary sector perspective) or where more work needs to be done. The purpose of these events is to inform and raise awareness of relevant safeguarding issues and practices with the target participants.

During 2018/19 the partnership delivered two engagement sessions; one on domestic abuse and one on Modern Slavery.

Moving into 2019/20, and with the transition to our new arrangements, the Board and its partner have agreed that the Community Engagement Subgroup should become a voluntary sector network, facilitated by Community Southwark, with representation on the SSCB and SSAB.

Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP):

The Wood Review into the role and functions of local safeguarding children boards, including child death functions, found that the majority of child deaths have a medical or public health cause, and only a minority relate to safeguarding. It was thus recommended that CDOP should become a function of public health, and this has been implemented across Southwark and Lambeth. It has since been agreed that Bromley CDOP should be merged with Southwark and Lambeth, and this merger is due to be completed in 2019/20.

During 2018/19 the CDOP have produced a joint strategic needs assessment for Southwark, and the result can be read [here](#).

Serious Case Review (SCR) Subgroup:

The SCR sub-group reviews all serious incidents referred to consider if the Serious Case Review criteria have been met. In addition, it identifies those cases where lessons can be learned but which do not meet the criteria for a Serious Case Review, as well as considering any themes or issues from other London or national Serious Case Reviews that may further improve the quality and impact of safeguarding in Southwark.

The learning from all case reviewing activity is overseen by the Practice, Development and Learning (PDL) subgroup, who ensure it is embedded in practice.

Looking ahead to 2019/20, this subgroup will review and update its terms of reference to incorporate the changes imposed by the new Working Together guidance.



Audit and Learning Subgroup:

The purpose of the SSCB Audit and Learning subgroup is to build and maintain an accurate picture across the SSCB partnership of:

- the quality and effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements
- areas of strength and good practice
- areas of risk and vulnerability
- actions related to improve outcomes for children

Historically, this has been achieved through multi-agency audits to provide assurance and test hypotheses in relevant areas of safeguarding work undertaken by the partnership. Examples of recent audits include:

- Quality of strategy meetings
- Knife crime
- Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC)

Whilst audit is a vital indicator of quality and practice and a means to identify outcomes for children and their families, there are other indicators which may strengthen the measurement of the partnership's assurance processes. The Board has therefore agreed to reposition the Audit and Learning subgroup as a Quality and Effectiveness subgroup, to incorporate the following workstreams:

- Develop and ratify borough-wide strategies, policies and guidance.
- Monitor and analyse safeguarding indicators across the partnership to identify whether safeguarding practice and arrangements have led to improved outcomes for children and young people.

- Manage a register of identified risks with mitigation to manage and reduce these risks which may include concerns and escalation around interagency practice and identify recommendations to be implemented.
- Provide challenge, evaluate and monitor action plans identified through section 11 of the Children Act 2004 audits.
- Identify and commission multi-agency audits to evaluate safeguarding practice and its impact on children, young people and families.
- Monitor the progress of action plans arising from any national reviews.

Human Resources (HR) Subgroup (Joint with SSAB):

This subgroup identifies and disseminates human resources best practice across all agencies providing services to children and vulnerable adults in Southwark, on behalf of the SSCB and SSAB.

The Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) provides a quarterly update to this group, reviewing the number of referrals received and identifying any emerging issues and significant changes in managing allegations.

As part of the wider review of all subgroups, it was identified that as all agencies across the partnership have their own HR processes, which differ quite significantly. These differences mean that data is not comparable, and any analysis is challenging. The HR role and function is undertaken as core business within each organisation and thus the work of the subgroup demonstrated a high level of duplication. The Board has therefore



agreed that from 2019/2020 this subgroup should be disbanded, with the LADO reports being presented to the newly formed Quality and Effectiveness subgroup.

Education Subgroup:

The education subgroup was established to:

- build and maintain the quality and effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements in the education sector
- help improve outcomes for children
- lead developments to improve safeguarding arrangements in education settings which have cross-sector or inter-agency relevance

The subgroup had been meeting termly (three times per year). It predominately focussed on information sharing and updates, rather than being outcome-focussed. Whilst this allowed for effective and positive professional working and communication between schools/education settings and other agencies, it did not effectively facilitate activity and delivery as required by the SSCB. The Board has therefore agreed that moving into 2019/20 this group should be repositioned as a safeguarding forum for schools, rather than a subgroup of the Board.

setting strategic priorities for multi-agency action around CSE and missing.

Through information received from MASE, including analysis of themes, patterns, and trends, it has become increasingly evident that as a partnership we need a more joined up approach between Child Sexual Exploitation and Criminal Exploitation. In September 2018 a CSE Executive meeting was convened to consider how to support these issues on behalf of the SSCB and as a partnership. The recommendation was to commission an Extended Learning Review, as described on page 16. The strategic approach to CSE will be embedded in the workstreams arising from the findings of the review.

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

Strategic Subgroup:

The CSE strategic sub group leads the partnership approach to preventing and tackling child sexual exploitation. It ensures statutory and best practice functions of the MASE are fulfilled as set out in the Pan-London Protocol and other key policy documents, together with



2.3 SSCB accountability

Core child protection activity

At the end of March 2019, there were 329 children on a child protection plan, and 459 children looked after by the local authority. These numbers are slightly lower than the same time last year.

Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)

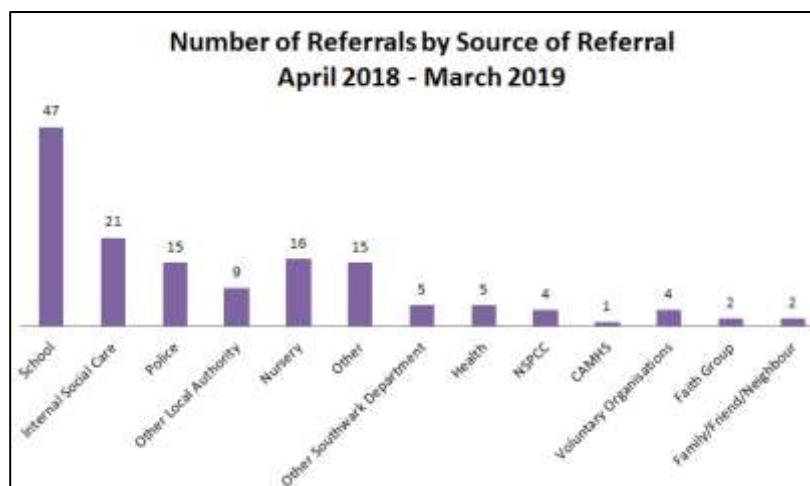
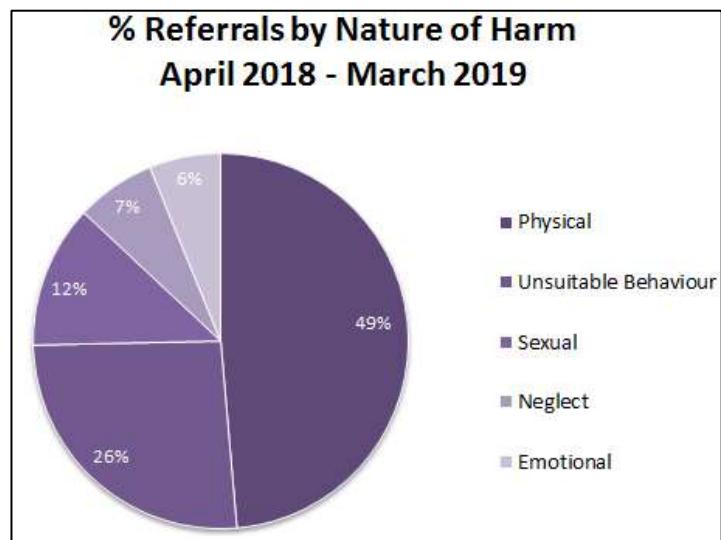
The LADO is responsible for all child protection allegations made against staff and volunteers working with children. This year, 146 referrals were received, in the main from large employers in nursery and school settings. There continues to be a good working relationship between the LADO and partner agencies in education and early years. Headteachers and nursery managers will routinely consult the LADO for advice and guidance before making formal referrals and any learning for an organisation is taken forward.

It is encouraging to see that not only do we get headteachers and nursery managers making referrals and calling for advice, but also staff in other areas of the council and partner agencies. We have developed stronger links with Leisure Services and Parks, Community Engagement, the travel assistance team, Early Years, and the schools standards team.

Another area where we see ongoing contact is from the fostering and care teams, who regularly call not just to make referrals but also to have case discussions where it is unclear if the matter would fall under standards of care or allegations. This process has been made easier by the revised London-wide agreement that each LADO will manage all allegations against

their own local authority foster carers irrespective of where they live in London.

One ongoing challenge, locally and nationally, is engagement of small faith groups and voluntary organisations. The LADO gets support in this area from various departments of Southwark Council.



2.4 Financial arrangements

The SSCB receives financial contributions from a number of agencies and other forms of in-kind support. Money received in 2018-19 is detailed below:

Contribution	Total
Police (MOPAC)	£5,000
Southwark CCG	£60,000
SLAM	£5,000
London Fire Brigade	£500
London Borough Southwark	£63,421.50
CAFCASS	£550
Total from contributions	£134,471.50

3. Progress against 2018/19 priorities:

3.1 Exploitation (specifically Child Sexual Exploitation and Criminal Exploitation/ county lines)

In early 2019, we were successful in securing funding from the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) and the Home Office to undertake an [extended learning review](#) on violence and vulnerability. Reviewers spoke to over 90 individuals from over 40 different organisations. The aim was to build a qualitative picture of the key issues and drivers around county lines, gangs, youth violence and vulnerability at a local level.

The overall finding of the review team was that Southwark has strong leadership and a progressive understanding of vulnerability along with the will and commitment to continue to build upon existing good interventions and initiatives. As we move into 2019/20 a senior leadership board will be set up to implement the key recommendations.

3.2 Knife Crime and Serious Youth Violence (joint with SSAB)

Knife crime and serious youth violence continues to be a priority for the partnership. There was a 10% reduction in the number of knife crime offences in 2018/19 compared to the previous year, including a 25% reduction in the number of knife offences involving an injury. Despite the percentage decrease, the volume of knife crime still needs to be reduced.

The findings of the [extended learning review](#) suggest that in Southwark we need to build on our considerable strengths, better coordinate and reconfigure our

existing resources across all sectors and deepen our understanding of the drivers that are behind the serious violence.

[The Community Safety Partnership Knife Crime and Serious Violence Plan 2018/20](#) contains a range of actions and outcomes spanning partnership activity. The Action Plan is refreshed annually to reflect outcomes and also other changes (for example insights gained from the extended learning review).

The partnership have been coordinating a range of preventative and enforcement activity across the borough, including increased police intelligence-led stop and search operations, and weapon sweeps in conjunction with wardens and community members. The council and police work together to pursue Criminal Behaviour Orders against specific individuals of concern, and the council use their powers as a landlord to target individuals identified as being involved in criminal activity.

The SSCB continues to engage with young people in a variety of ways, such as deploying the Southwark Young Advisors StreetBase team to engage young people on the streets and link them to services and positive activity. During 2019/20 the Southwark Young Advisors, in collaboration with the Peer Navigators, will be central to the co-design of our future approach to violence and vulnerability.



In October 2018, a Youth Voice event was organised as a response to young people requesting the opportunity to raise their concerns around safety directly with the local authority and police. The agenda and format of the event was set out by the young people. Nine secondary schools

attended, bringing together approximately ninety young people.

Following the success of the Youth Voice event in October, a further "You said, We did" event was held in March 2019.

YOUTH VOICE EVENT



In February 2019 a workshop was held to explore ways in which faith groups can be involved in combatting serious youth violence. A task and finish group has been set up to coordinate this work, looking at using different channels of communication to reach young people and parents/carers, and ways in which the partnership can support faith groups, who in turn can support community resilience. Further events and workshops are planned for 2019/20.

3.3 Vulnerable Parents

Southwark Council has refreshed its approach to supporting families affected by a range of issues, renewing its [Early Help](#) and [Strengthening Families](#) offer. The council is engaging with parents directly and in forums, for example the parents of children in the Youth Offending Service (YOS).

In February 2019 the YOS hosted a Keeping Families Strong event with over 60 attendees. They were asked:

- What keeps families strong?
- What helps?
- What gets in the way?
- How can families and young people get involved and help each other?

An illustration of some of their responses can be seen on the following page.





KEEPING families STRONG



Illustrated by Sandra Howgate

3.4 Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND)

National legislation governing additional support for children, young people and adults who are disabled or who have Special Educational Needs promotes the bringing together of support, services and budgets.

This legislation and guidance have introduced changes to the context in which care and support for young people and their families occurs. There is an expectation that universal and mainstream services become more inclusive so that people with additional needs are not perceived as being the responsibility of specialist services only.

In this vein, Children's and Adults Services have developed an All Ages Disability (AAD) pathway. By locating the Children's Disabilities services within the Adults' Learning Disabilities service, the pathway that clients travel along will be seamless. Improved performance monitoring will ensure that the service achieves a more outcome-focused approach for individuals with disabilities.

Locating the AAD service operationally within the Adult Social Care management structure ensures a greater operational overview of the pathway for people with disabilities through childhood and into adult life.

The programme is currently in the review and design phase. A transitional AAD service within the Adults' Social Care management structure has already been agreed and implemented that incorporates the following service areas/teams:

- The Children's Disabilities teams
- The Children's Family Link team

- The Adults' Learning Disabilities Service

Positions have been recruited to and the transitional structure has already begun.

Affected stakeholders will be updated through workshops, the [parents and young people's consortium](#) and the provider forum.



Following the successful completion of a staff consultation the new service structure will be implemented before the service and accompanying arrangements are launched.

3.5 Neglect

It is well documented that neglect is a common thread across Serious Youth Violence, Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) and Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE). Throughout 2018/19 neglect was the recorded category for half of all children on a Child Protection (CP) Plan. This is the tip of the iceberg, as we know that neglect is underrepresented, poorly understood, and usually addressed only when there is overwhelming evidence. Neglect is often hidden until other forms of abuse and consequences come to light.

In February 2019 Southwark CCG and Public Health hosted a half day workshop on Child and Adolescent Neglect, building on work previously done by the SSCB on neglect (The 2014 deep dive into neglect, the 2015 Neglect Needs Assessment and the 2017 Multiagency Audit). Whilst acknowledging that the response to



neglect should be multiagency in approach, the aim of the workshop was to focus on neglect through a health lens, drilling down to how we identify and respond to neglect within health before considering a referral to Children's Social Care (CSC).

48 health professionals from hospital and community settings and across various disciplines attended the workshop. Feedback from participants was very positive.

“Great opportunity working in interagency groups to hear and learn from different disciplines”

Outcomes from the session were presented to the SSCB in March 2019, and will form the basis for further discussion of this area. Key themes identified were:

- Ensuring that programmes put in place filter down to frontline staff
- Training
- Prioritising the child’s lived experience (moving away from thresholds as the main determinant for when an intervention should be offered)
- Accessible flexible and responsive prevention and early intervention approaches
- Well-publicised public health messages
- Adequate resourcing of prevention and early intervention work



4. Learning from Case Reviews

Serious Case Review: Child Y

Child Y received life-threatening injuries in 2017, whilst living with a foster family at a Southwark address. The injuries were inflicted by an older, learning disabled child who lived with them under a special guardianship order. An SCR took place, and the final report was published on 7th September 2018.

Child Y was placed with the foster parents by Wandsworth Children's Social Care, and the majority of the recommendations in the review are for Wandsworth Safeguarding Children Board to action. Both Wandsworth and Southwark Safeguarding Children Boards were recommended to seek formal assurances from respective member agencies that training programmes include sufficiently clear advice and guidance about Special Guardianship Orders (SGOs) and associated SGO Support Plans.

The full report can be read [here](#).

Multi Agency Learning Reviews

In addition to undertaking statutory reviews the SSCB is committed to learning and improving practice, so we also conducted two multi-agency learning reviews in 2018/19.

Review 1- complete

The final report for this review was completed in October 2018, and an action plan was developed based on the recommendations in the report. Progress against the action plan will be monitored by the SCR subgroup.

Key learning points from this review covered:

- Mobile families
- Children missing from education
- S47 tracking
- CSE risk assessment and review
- Children who go missing
- Young people aged under 18 with serious alcohol dependency
- GP and Health assessments for Looked After Children
- DoLS guidance/planning/review at least monthly –involving the young person.

Review 2- ongoing

Following the death of a Southwark young person, and the serious injury to another, a decision was made to appoint an independent reviewer to undertake a thematic review across these cases, focusing on key lines of enquiry, to identify improvements and to consolidate areas of good practice.

The reviewer will attempt to involve the families and the surviving young person in the review as far as possible.

At a later date there will be a learning event, which will seek to engage differing levels of staff who worked with the families, with the intention of starting the process of learning and improvement at the earliest opportunity.



5. Looking Ahead

Our Priorities for 2019/20

The SSCB has agreed to carry through the priorities from 2018/19 into 2019/20, as these areas of work do not fit neatly within a financial year framework.

5.1 Exploitation (specifically Child Sexual Exploitation and Criminal Exploitation / county lines)

The extended learning review acknowledged some local strengths in response to Serious Youth Violence and related issues. It suggested these should be enhanced by the establishment of a Community Harm and Exploitation Hub. This approach was endorsed by the SSCB, and work has started with front-line practitioners and other key stakeholders including young people to develop a service model. The ambition is to bring together a group of practitioners from different services and agencies to improve the outcomes for young people and their families in the areas of broad health and well-being, but particularly to protect them from violence, criminal and sexual exploitation, with a deeper understanding of "contextual safeguarding" and the drivers that lead to such criminality and exploitation.

5.2 Knife Crime and Serious Youth Violence (joint with SSAB)

A Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) on serious youth violence is being developed by Public Health, in conjunction with Southwark's Community Safety Partnership. This is due for completion in early 2019/20 and will further inform and strengthen our approach in line with the findings from the extended learning review.

A central focus of the extended learning review is to further our local understanding of drugs as a driver to violence and vulnerability.

5.3 Vulnerable Parents

Moving into 2019/20, "Keeping Families Strong" is the key message we will continue to communicate to families and the community by providing more opportunities for parents to receive support and also become involved in the delivery of parenting programmes. Raising awareness of risk factors for children is another key focus, through talking about the influence of parental mental well being and healthy relationships in the home so that parents can take positive steps to build resilience against adverse childhood experiences. New support programmes for couples, parents with a mental illness and parents of primary children will be available alongside the well established Fathers Group and Strengthening Families Strengthening Communities programme. Families have been involved in producing a video about their experiences of attending parenting programmes and we will be using this to highlight the benefits to the whole family of parents taking time out to focus on their parenting skills.

5.4 Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

The All Age Disabilities (0-25) and Learning Disabilities (25+) service will move into the implementation phase, following the formal staff consultation and service development work carried out in 2018/19.

Improved performance monitoring will be delivered through the development of a bespoke performance dashboard to



ensure that the service achieves a more outcome-focused approach for individuals with disabilities.

Key deliverables of the implementation phase include recruitment to vacancies and alignment to health's North/South model as well as solidifying internal processes. Further development work is planned to strengthen joint working with education and health. Ongoing work with commissioners and the [multi-agency safeguarding hub \(MASH\)](#) will ensure that the implementation of the disabilities hub in 2020 will provide flexible and proactive information and advice as well as a strong preventative offer to people with disabilities, their families and carers.

The new service structure will incorporate specific autism and communication specialisms to develop the skills and expertise of staff and benefit clients across the care pathway. Learning and development workshops will be arranged to upskill front line staff and ensure best practice techniques are embedded within the social work practice.

Plans are in place to transform the Orient Street short break residential service following its recent Ofsted and CQC inspections, to enable it to be more accessible to a wider cohort of clients with disabilities and autism in need of a short break. Service development plans are also in place to develop and increase the [Family Link](#) short break offer to clients through recruitment of Link Carers, staff training and development and review of Link carer payments.

5.5 Neglect

Following the neglect workshop in February 2019, individual agencies are meeting to discuss their respective offers, and how awareness of these can be

raised with frontline staff. An extended session on neglect is planned for the SSCB in summer 2019. Neglect will also form a key component of the Southwark CAMHS safeguarding conference, planned for October 2019.



Young People's Priorities for 2019/20



YOUTH VOICE EVENT #2

- what we want to talk about next -

26th March
2019



Contact information

If you have any questions about the content of this report, or thoughts about what we should include in future reports, please contact sscb@southwark.gov.uk.

If you are concerned about a child at risk in the borough of Southwark you should notify us immediately on MASH@southwark.gov.uk.

If the child has been injured you should seek advice from their GP, or in an emergency call 999.

If you believe a crime has been committed you should notify the police.