



Enfield Safeguarding Children's Partnership

# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2023-24

[www.safeguardingenfield.org](http://www.safeguardingenfield.org)

# Safeguarding **ENFIELD**

Here are some of the organisations working to keep children,  
young people safe in Enfield.



**We all have a role to play to help keep children, young people safe. If you have concerns,  
please contact us and we can act to stop abuse.**

# Please talk to us

Safeguarding children, young people is everyone's responsibility. As someone who might live, work or study in Enfield you have a role too. If you are worried about someone or yourself, please talk to us. You can get help in any of these ways.

## Children and young people

If you or the person you are concerned about is under 18 (a child or young person):

- Ring the Children Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) Team on **020 8379 5555**, Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.00pm.
- Call the emergency duty team on **020 8379 1000** at night and weekends and tell them what is happening.
- For people who work with children and young people, please make your referral using the Children Portal: [www.enfield.gov.uk/childrenportal](http://www.enfield.gov.uk/childrenportal)
- You can email at: [ChildrensMash@enfield.gov.uk](mailto:ChildrensMash@enfield.gov.uk)
- In an emergency – such as when someone is being hurt or shut out of their home – ring the police on **999**.
- You can also ring **ChildLine** on **0800 1111** or visit the ChildLine website: [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)

If you don't want to talk to someone you don't know, you can ask an adult you trust, like a teacher or youth worker or even a friend, to make phone call for you. When people are working with children they have follow set procedures, but they will explain to you what they will do and should be able to support you through the process.

### ChildLine

ChildLine have launched the '**For Me**' app – the first app to provide counselling for young people via smartphone and other mobile devices. For more information and to download the app for free, go to: [www.childline.org.uk/toolbox/for-me](http://www.childline.org.uk/toolbox/for-me)



We are here to help you.

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# Summary of achievements

Here are some of the achievements of the Enfield Safeguarding Children's Partnership over the 2023/2024 financial year.

The following achievements are aligned to our strategic priorities of physical abuse, anti-racist practice and child on child abuse which has been a focus for the partnership this year:

## Practice Week on Physical Abuse



A week dedicated to improving practice in an area of one of our strategic priorities was held with over 400 practitioners. There was a range of workshops delivered by the Partnership, training opportunities and a review of a multi-agency audit on physical abuse to see how far Enfield has progressed since the last one completed in 2022.

## Enhanced Training opportunities



We were able to facilitate a wider range of training opportunities to partners in Enfield with a specific focus on Adultification which is a feature within anti-racist practice. We also delivered training on challenging disproportionality to support partners to acknowledge and respond to how children can sometimes be treated differently to their counterparts. In addition, multi-agency Safeguarding Awareness to support the partnership response to physical abuse. In addition, we offered training on Domestic Abuse and Coercive Control and Working with men.

## Multi-agency audits completed



There were three multi-agency audits completed which identified key areas of good practice to improve upon and areas where learning and development of practitioners should be focussed. One of the audits was on Serious Youth Violence giving us a lens on how child on child abuse is being responded to in Enfield. We also completed a sense check audit on physical abuse, a way for us to measure how far the partnership response to physical abuse has progressed. Intra-familial sexual abuse and the voice of a child was another audit completed. A fourth multi-agency audit started in Q4 on Extra Familial Risk which is due to be completed in Q1 of 24-25.

## Safeguarding Adolescents Strategy



This strategy was agreed by the Partnership and published with a young person friendly version which can be read here. The strategy is being monitored within the Vulnerable Young People activity group and is also aligned strategic priority.

**Additional achievements for 23-24 are:**

**LCSPR of Emily published**



The Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review of Emily was published and is available to read here along with a 7-minute briefing to support in reflective discussions and team meetings. A learning event on Emily was facilitated with a highlight on supporting practitioners in keeping children safe online.

**Safeguarding ambassadors**



The Safeguarding Ambassadors launched the video they made on their experiences of being stopped and searched by the Police. This led to the Ambassadors being invited to a range of settings to showcase their video which was received positively.

**Quality Assurance activity group**



A new activity group was launched in 23-24 to focus on data collection across the partnership and to provide an extra layer of scrutiny.

**Recruitment of Independent Chair/Scrutineer**



We were able to successfully recruit Nicky Pace as our Independent Chair/Scrutineer who joined the Partnership and supported with direction and scrutiny.

# Introduction

**I am pleased to share this Annual report on behalf of the Enfield Safeguarding Children's Partnership (ESCP) in line with our statutory responsibilities under the new requirements in Working Together 2023. The report covers April 2023 to March 2024 and provides the opportunity to review progress in delivering on our priorities, assess our training activities and consider**

2023/24 was a challenging but productive year for the ESCP Partnership. Like all areas in the country Enfield residents experienced the effects of the cost of living and housing crisis. More children and families are accessing services in the public and voluntary sectors, putting more strain on public sector resources. As result ESCP agencies have had to work even more collaboratively to meet needs in line with our priorities and address the emerging issues identified.

As a partnership we have also responded to the new guidance for partnerships in Working Together 2023 which was published in December 2023. This requires us to strengthen our leadership arrangements, further our engagement and contribution by our schools and also requires changes to the role of independent chair /scrutineer. We also recognise we need to strengthen our multi agency data sharing and analysis. I will continue to provide independent scrutiny to the partnership, acting as a critical friend to provide assurance to the whole system in judging the effectiveness of the multiagency safeguarding arrangements. Working Together 2023 requires scrutiny to provide safeguarding partners and relevant agencies with independent, rigorous, effective support and challenge at both a strategic and operational level.

This was my first year as the Independent chair/scrutineer for the ESCP and as part of my role have undertaken scrutiny of the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) arrangements. There were demonstrable strengths recognised in partnership working in the MASH with evidence of good information sharing, as well as areas for consideration to strengthen the multi-agency arrangements including agencies understanding of consent when making referrals. The next area for scrutiny focus currently being undertaken alongside an independent consultant is a focus on extra familiar harm/contextualised safeguarding. This will be reported on in next year's annual report.

## **Areas of particular note this year were:**

- Our Safeguarding Ambassadors produced a video on Stop and Search, which has been used to provide training to Childrens Services, have presented at New Scotland Yard and the Magistrates Court.
- A successful ESCP Practice week which focussed on physical abuse including a multi-agency audit
- Delivery of the multi-agency Safeguarding Adolescents Strategy and a Discharge Policy following learning from a serious incident





The partnership has delivered well on its priorities driven by the Business plan, which are covered in more detail in the body of this report. The annual report gives us an opportunity to look forward as well as reflectively and, through its work with partners and practitioners the ESCP has identified a range of emerging issues that will impact on our work over the coming years such as school attendance and the cost-of-living crisis. In 2024/25 we will focus on improving our understanding of these issues, how they impact on families, how they align with our new priorities and seek to continuously strive for excellence in our response to these complex issues. We understand the budget pressures on all agencies, as well as the Metropolitan police inspection report and the challenges delivering on the actions identified. There has also been a challenge for all agencies in recruiting and retaining its workforce.

I can provide assurance that the Multi-agency Safeguarding Arrangements for Enfield Safeguarding Children Partnership are compliant with Working Together 2018 and there is a plan to ensure our arrangements are compliant with Working Together 2023; we will publish our new arrangement document by the end of 2024. The arrangements ensure that children in Enfield are safeguarded, and their welfare promoted. This Annual Report 2023-2024 was also scrutinised and I can confirm that this is compliant with the requirements of Working Together 2018.

Lastly, I would like to thank the business unit staff, for their continued support in the smooth functioning and promotion of the ESCP. I would also like to thank our stakeholders from across the partnership and all the frontline practitioners and managers for their commitment, hard work and effort in keeping children and young people safer in Enfield.

**Nicky Pace**  
ESCP Independent chair/scrutineer

# Implementing a culture of learning

## Local Safeguarding Practice Reviews (LCSPRs)

**There was one LCSPR published this year on Emily.**

A little bit about Emily-

Emily is 17 years old who has been a LAC to Enfield since she was 4 years old, due to chronic neglect and parental substance use. Emily has a diagnosis of autism, global developmental delay, and ADHD. Her long-term foster placement from aged 4 became unstable when she was 12 years old and broke down completely when she was 15. There were Deprivation of Liberties Safeguards (DoLS) in place for Emily and she had 2:1 support at all times. On the day after her 16th birthday, Emily went missing and was found at a central London underground station the next morning. She said that she had been raped and injected with cocaine by a person who she had met online in an interactive game.

Emily was able to share her thoughts and feelings about what she would have liked to see different if some of the circumstances leading up to her going missing could have been different. One of the things that she found particularly difficult was when she was arrested from one of her placements and held in custody. Whilst she acknowledged that the officers who dealt with her on the day were nice and supportive, being within custody made her feel very agitated.

Emily is currently in a placement where she feels safe and supported. The relationships that she has built with staff mean a lot to her and she speaks fondly about her time with them and likes to share stories on the activities they have completed together.

Emily is a pseudonym and is a name that she was able to choose to identify as within the report. To read the full report for Emily you can do so [here](#) and also the accompanying [7 minute briefing](#).

The learning event that took place to launch this review was focussed on how to support children and young people from online harm. The session focussed on identifying and responding to risk and was well attended by over 70 practitioners.

Learning from this review has been incorporated into an action plan, with a focus on supporting practitioners to understand mental capacity and DoLS and for existing panels to consider when an alert of vulnerabilities should be made to the police.

## Practice Week on Physical Abuse

Practice week was a first for Enfield's safeguarding children's partnership. It was organised to offer a range of professional development opportunities to practitioners across the partnership on topics related to physical abuse.

We had an excess of 400 practitioners attend a range of workshops throughout the week that were on information sharing, how to make a good referral, case study review and how to engage effectively with strategy meetings. In addition to this, we had two training sessions held, one on multi-agency safeguarding awareness and the other on working with men.

Strategic partners undertook a multi-agency audit on physical abuse as a review activity. In 2022 there was a multi-agency audit on physical abuse following the tragic death of Star and Arthur. At that time, the audit could not assure the Partnership that practice on responding to concerns of physical abuse was good enough. The recommendations from the 2022 audit was the key indicators for the 2023 practice week audit, which was designed to sense check how far Enfield had progressed to address concerns on physical abuse.

The outcome from the 2023 practice week was largely positive. Key learning points from the audit for partners to consider featured upon understanding the context and culture of a family who practitioners are working with. This was important as anti-racist practice is a strategic priority of the partnership and is acknowledged to be a specific area of practice development across the partnership. Another learning point was ensuring that the voice of a child is acknowledged within assessment which was also an area of improvement in practice that was featured in a multi-agency audit relating to intra-familial sexual abuse.

## Multi-agency training

Improving the offer of training to partners was a priority for the Partnership. We were successful in increasing the availability of training, as well as offering a wider range of training opportunities.

**Below is an overview of the training that was delivered and participation levels.**

| Training Courses 2023/24  | Education | Health | Children's Services | VCOs | Other LBE e.g Housing, Adults | Probation | Police | Foster Carer | Total |
|---|-----------|--------|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|-----------|--------|--------------|-------|
| Forced Marriage and Honour Based Violence (3 sessions)                              | 6         | 19     | 30                  | 7    | 10                            | 1         | 1      |              | 74    |
| Introduction to Adulthood (4 sessions)  | 7         | 33     | 27                  | 3    | 2                             |           | 5      |              | 77    |
| Introduction to Signs of Safety (2 sessions)  | 10        | 18     | 1                   | 7    |                               |           |        |              | 36    |
| Missing Children (3 sessions)   | 19        | 23     | 8                   | 2    | 1                             |           |        |              | 53    |
| Children with Disabilities (1 session)  | 2         | 12     | 1                   |      | 1                             |           |        |              | 16    |
| Prevent (3 sessions)  | 8         | 11     | 7                   | 3    | 2                             | 1         |        |              | 32    |
| Managing Allegations against Staff & Volunteers (3 sessions)                        | 10        | 19     | 4                   |      |                               | 1         |        | 3            | 37    |
| Working with neglect (1 session)  | 3         | 6      | 3                   |      |                               |           |        |              | 12    |
| Multi Agency Safeguarding Awareness Training (4 sessions)                           | 16        | 12     |                     | 3    |                               |           |        |              | 31    |
| Understanding Domestic Abuse & Coercive Control (2 sessions)                        | 9         | 13     | 7                   | 2    | 6                             |           |        |              | 37    |
| Challenging Disproportionality: Risk Assessing for young black children (1 session) | 5         | 10     | 7                   |      | 4                             |           |        |              | 26    |
| Substance Misuse & Hidden Harm (2 sessions)   | 1         | 8      | 6                   | 3    | 2                             |           |        |              | 20    |

| Training Courses 2023/24   | Education  | Health     | Children's Services | VCOs      | Other LBE e.g Housing, Adults | Probation | Police    | Foster Carer | Total      |
|--|------------|------------|---------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|------------|
| Contextual Safeguarding Workshop (1 session)                         | 12         | 12         | 11                  | 4         |                               |           |           |              | 39         |
| Working with Men (1 session)   | 3          | 8          | 3                   |           |                               |           |           |              | 14         |
| Disrupting Exploitation- Working with Children with SEND (1 session) | 1          | 8          | 3                   | 1         |                               |           | 3         |              | 16         |
| YGam Training - Health & Social Care (1 session)                     |            | 9          |                     |           |                               | 1         |           | 1            | 11         |
| YGam Training - Education (1 session)                                | 12         | 0          |                     |           |                               |           |           |              | 12         |
| How to write a good referral   | 8          | 21         |                     | 2         |                               |           | 1         |              | 32         |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>132</b> | <b>221</b> | <b>118</b>          | <b>37</b> | <b>28</b>                     | <b>4</b>  | <b>10</b> | <b>4</b>     | <b>575</b> |

The wider offer of training was received well by practitioners. They enjoyed being able to develop in a range of areas and it opened discussions that supported them to reflect upon their own practice. Upon review, there is a concern from the partnership about the levels of late cancellations from training events. The work force pressures across the partnership are contributing factors to the availability of staff. Practitioners appear to be well intended to attend training and sign up, however there is an ongoing issue with late cancellations or people who do not show up. The Partnership plans to work together with practitioners to try and tackle this issue.

## Learning from National Reviews

The National Child Mortality Database (NCMD) published a themed report on deaths of children and young people due to traumatic incidents. The Practice Improvement Group was presented the findings by our Designate Nurse for CDOP. Within the report there were recommendations that applied to our partnership; therefore, partners have committed to completing actions against those recommendations. These include water safety advice going out to parents early and ensuring the need for bath safety advice being disseminated from Public Health.

The Practice Improvement Group have also shared learning that is produced from the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel, to ensure that partners are kept abreast of national reviews and recommendations. The annual report produced by the Panel was also shared so that partners could consider safeguarding practice from a national perspective, rather than just local.

## Child Death Overview Panel

The Child Death Review Partners made up of the North Central London Integrated Care Board and the Public Health Local Authority teams continue to work closely to ensure processes after followed when responding to, investigating, and reviewing the death of any child, from any cause.

This is for two main reasons:

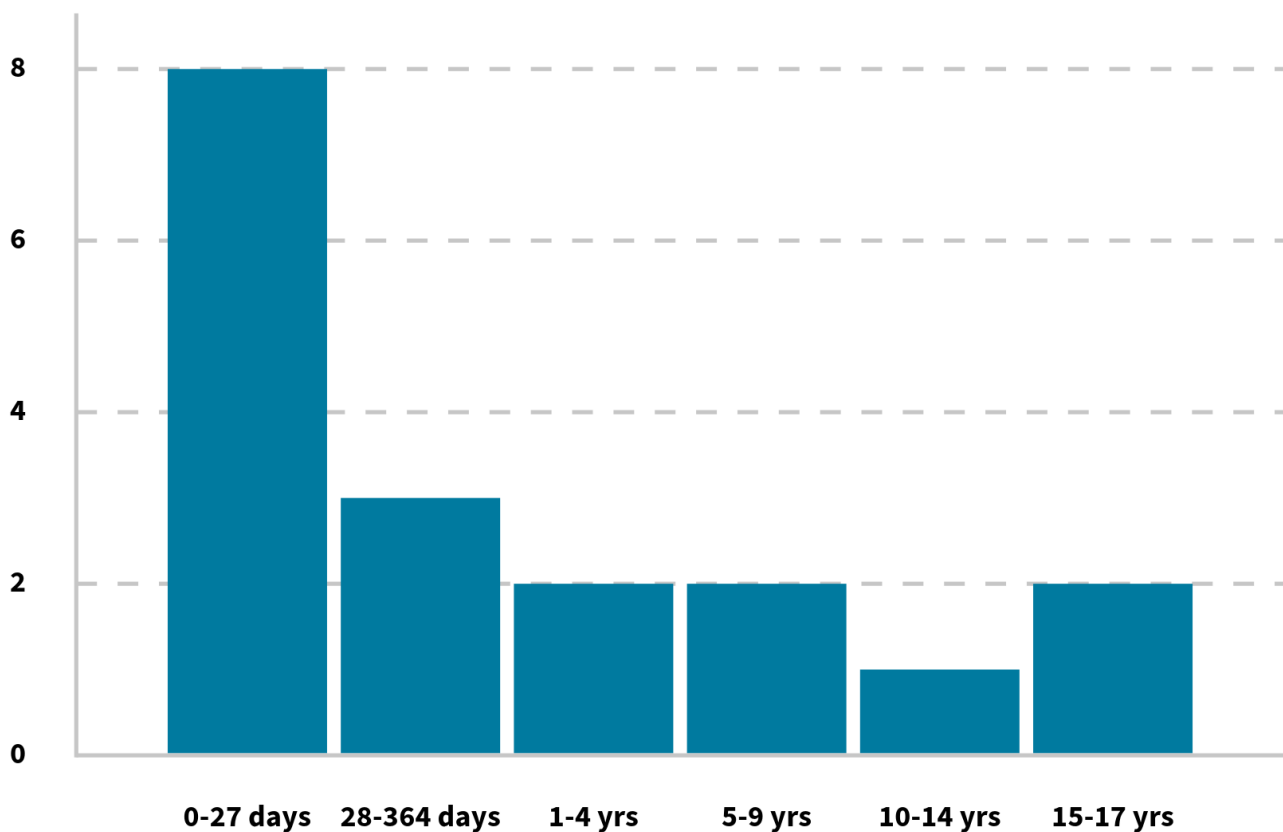
1. to improve the experience of bereaved families, as well as professionals, after the death of a child; and
2. to ensure that information from the child death review process is systematically captured to enable local learning and, through the planned National Child Mortality Database (NCMD), to identify learning at the national level, and inform changes in policy and practice.

Updates in learning from national thematic reports published by the NCMD along with early learning from cases is shared through to the Partnership via the Practice Improvement Group. Learning briefings developed from themed panels are also shared through this group.

In 2023-2024, NCL CDOP received 92 notifications of child deaths through the eCDOP system. Of these cases, 18 were for Enfield children. Of the notifications received for Enfield, 10 were for unexpected deaths. The Child Death process requires the Child Death Review Partners to convene a multi-agency Joint Agency Response meeting for each unexpected death.

### Age range

■ Enfield



These numbers outline that 11 children under 1 years old have sadly died. This is significant for partners to consider when working with families the level of trauma that may underpin the family story.

# How do we measure impact?

**The main way that ESCP measure impact is from the evaluations that are completed by delegates once training is attended. The training offer for the partnership was extended significantly this year with greater investment placed upon the quality and variety of training that is offered.**

Following training, practitioners were asked to report on; delivery of trainer, quality of learning material, and the pace of the session offered. An area of development for ESCP is to ensure that more evaluation forms are completed as currently the level of returns are very low. On average, less than 30% of delegates complete a evaluation form. However, as most training was delivered online where many delegates opt to praise the trainer and/or content within the Teams chat option. Whilst the feedback provides the trainer with instant feedback, which is positive, this has not been helpful for ESCP to consider the efficacy of training offered and will need to be reconsidered for 24-25.

In all of our learning activity, there are action plans that are embedded within it. Therefore, we have robust action plans that underpin all Rapid Review meetings, LCSPR's, multi-agency audits and national safeguarding themes.

ESCP ensure that the action plans are specific to the need of the learning point and each partner agency are asked to consider how the action will be applied in their area. They are asked to provide feedback to the partnership on when and how the learning points/actions have been shared with frontline practitioners. This level of accountability ensures that the Partnership are given assurance that the learning opportunity has been shared.

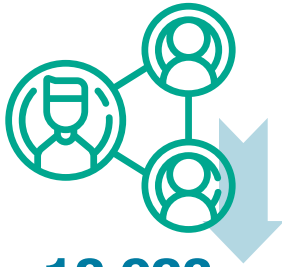
Our multi-agency audit this year on physical abuse was used to sense-check the progress that was made from a previous multi-agency audit that was completed. This was a way to measure impact of the learning that was disseminated from the first audit in 22-23 and to determine whether practice has been impacted.

This type of reflection upon multi-agency audits provided a further level of assurance to the partnership on whether impact from learning disseminated has been effective in direct practice in a practical way. Engaging with frontline practitioners in discussion within this audit, also helped the reviewer to hear from practitioners how they are using learning to inform practice which was useful for strategic partners to reflect upon.

## Reviewing data

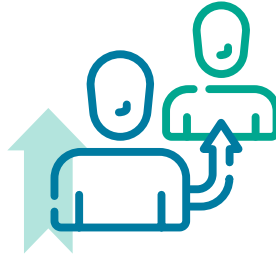
A multi-agency data set is something that the partnership are developing. Data provides a helpful insight into how we can measure impact. We have had productive conversations about our data set within our Quality Assurance activity group meetings and we are at a place where we are starting to analyse the data that we are being provided to ensure we are measuring impact and improving services.

Data from childrens services which can be seen below provides an overview of Enfield:



**18,923**  
**MASH contacts**

A significant decline from 2022-2023 which could be impacted by an increase in training opportunities for partner agencies ensuring that contacts are more appropriately referred to the right service.



**276 referrals stepped down to Early Help**



**1604**  
**number of S.47s**

This was also a significant decline from 2022-2023 and will be scrutinised within the Quality Assurance activity group meeting.



**302**  
**children subject to a child protection plan**  
A decrease from 321 last year.



**90.1%**  
**C&F assessments completed within 45 working days**  
This is a significant improvement and is something that should be acknowledged positively by the partnership.



**584**  
**children with a child in need plan (allocated to a Social Worker)**  
A decrease from 680 last year



**420**  
**children looked after**  
The number of looked after children in Enfield has not significantly fluctuated since last year. The need for these children has remained the same and the service officer continues to be robust enough to meet the need identified.



**420**  
**care leavers aged 18+**



**36**  
**new allegations meeting LADO threshold**

# Improve Services

## Safeguarding Ambassadors

The Safeguarding Ambassadors completed the video they created on the impact Stop & Search has had on them and were able to present the video to practitioners to support in understanding impact.

This project was timely because at the same time, Metropolitan Police Service were completing a charter on Stop & Search. The ambassadors were invited to a feedback session at New Scotland Yard to share their views and opinions that were highlighted within the video. They were well received and invited back again to a further two events hosted by the Police.

The ambassadors also attended the Magistrates Court and presented their video, whilst also speaking to their experiences. Professionals in the court agreed with the emotions, feelings and thoughts that were shared by the ambassadors. Professionals noted that a lot of what they shared has been communicated to professionals at different points in their career but felt the video to be a key reminder of the impact which is the most important part for professionals to consider.

In addition to this, the ambassadors were invited to host a lunch and learn session with Childrens Services on the video they created. They shared a PowerPoint presentation and the video to help prompt a reflective discussion upon how young people feel. The session was evaluated very well, with many of the delegates requesting that the ambassadors host another session like this to allow more staff to attend.

The ambassadors have also created and designed a leaflet for young people on what a LADO investigation is. This was to provide support to other children and young people who may have made an allegation about a professional and do not know or understand what is going to happen next. You can review the leaflet [here](#).

The ambassadors also contributed to the completion of the Safeguarding Adolescents Strategy, sharing powerful information on where they feel safe in the borough, what makes them feel unsafe and how they can be supported. You can view the Safeguarding Adolescent Strategy: children and young people's version [here](#).

In every setting that the young people have spoken and shared their video, the feedback has always been overwhelmingly positive. The ambassadors have been able to see and hear great feedback on their hard work which is important to reinforce for our young people.

## Multi-agency audits

This year we completed three multi-agency audits completed on serious youth violence, intrafamilial sexual abuse and the voice of the child, and physical abuse. In Enfield we complete our audits in a dynamic way, inviting all partners around the table to discuss each case with the independent reviewer present. This has enabled partners to grade their own practice within a case and listen to the multi-agency response and then formulate a multi-agency grade. It also has allowed for partners to challenge one another's practice, as the audits are attended by strategic leads rather than frontline practitioners.

A significant theme that has come out of the multi-agency audits is around working with men within the family. Fathers and/or step fathers play a role in raising the child however there was little evidence of practitioners engaging with fathers or step-fathers in direct practice.





As a result, ESCP re-circulated the 7 minute briefing that has been developed on [engaging fathers](#) which stems from [The Myth of Invisible Men review](#). The tool along with practice tips is something that ESCP has previously developed, however, re-circulating it and encouraging managers to discuss within team meetings was needed. In addition, it is important to acknowledge that staff turnover is high across the partnership, therefore practice reminders are necessary.

Another theme that became apparent from the audits was working with children and families from culturally diverse communities or different races and how this impacts upon practice. Anti-racist practice is a priority for the partnership and as such there was training specific on adultification offered to practitioners to help to think about intersectionality and how this plays a role in practice. In addition, as part of the learning summary that was disseminated as part of the audit, this area of practice was flagged to practitioners to be mindful of and to discuss within supervision processes.

You can view the learning points that have been shared with the partnership by clicking [here](#).

## Education

Education are represented at our strategic executive level and our operational strategic meetings. Having Education as an integral part of the partnership helps us to consider the impact of initiatives on children and families from an education perspective. Whilst Education is not a statutory strategic partner, at Enfield we acknowledge the importance in having the voice of Education around the table.

In addition to this, the Safeguarding Children's Partnership Manager attends the Designated Safeguarding Leads Network Meeting to promote and disseminate learning and development to all schools. To ensure that ESCP is in line with the changes to Working Together 2023, a decision has been made for the Safeguarding Partnership Manager to attend the Early Years safeguarding forum as well as the Early Years strategic board meeting. This is to ensure that Early Years are also having access to the learning and development opportunities.

In 2023/24, our partnership with Education celebrated a number of successes and initiatives. These include:

### The Enfield Inclusion Charter.

**85%**

of our schools and

**99%**

of our Early Years settings have now signed the Enfield Inclusion Charter.

The Enfield Inclusion Exhibition in July 2024 brought many schools, services and charities together for a series of tours, workshops and events.

**E-TIPSS (Enfield Trauma Informed Practice in Schools) has grown in strength and influence.**

**75** Enfield schools have accessed E-TIPSS training, with 10 'implementation' schools investing in in-depth support and school-wide training.

**111** partners across 16 Enfield teams have accessed training. E-TIPSS is referenced in 9 Enfield strategies, policies and guidance.

A Suite of Useful Tools has been created and is already in wide use. These tools include the Safeguarding Self-Audit for Schools and Settings, the Safeguarding Audit for Out of Hours Provision, the Peer Review Safeguarding Audit and The Inclusion Charter Champions Audit

Support for DSLs (Designated Safeguarding Leads in schools) has been recognised as robust, with comprehensive and readily available advice, network meetings, a weekly 'RoundUp' newsletter and guide, a clear webpage with resources and guidance, and initiatives such as the DSL Peer Advice Group and Peer Review Triads.

### Monitoring and Challenge.

**10**

full safeguarding reviews of schools have been conducted this year. All complaints and concerns, however minor and however received, have been followed up rapidly and schools challenged and supported to improve where needed.

**98%**

of our schools and settings are judged by Ofsted as Good and Outstanding, with the remaining schools judged by SEYIS to be Good or Outstanding, awaiting re-inspection.

Strong Partnerships Across Enfield and London. We are working closely with UNICEF and the VRU (Violence Reduction Unit) in particular to share good practice and promote initiatives.

Working Parties for Online Safety and Harmful Sexual Behaviour. These working parties have developed guidance and resources for schools, parents and professionals.

## Early Help

This year Early Help have launched two Youth and Family Hubs in Enfield. One is in Ponders End and the other is at Craig Park. The Youth and Family Hubs are designed to bring together lots of different services for children and families, making it easier for them to get the help they need at the right time. Offering help and support for families, from pregnancy up until age 19, or 25 for young people with special educational needs and disabilities.

The hubs are welcoming, friendly, and open to all families, children, and young people. They have a family hub navigator to support families and young people to access the help they need.

This whole family approach will ensure that the support provided for children, young people and families is delivered in a holistic and joined-up way.

## Looked After Children

Looked After Children (LAC) receive dedicated support to thrive and are placed in suitable placements. When challenges arise, meetings are convened to plan the best arrangements for these children. Social workers visit regularly, and work ensure that children continue to have positive relationships with families and their friendship networks through family time and that reunification is considered where appropriate.

Audits and positive feedback from parents demonstrate the commitment of social workers from Children Services to building strong relationships with LAC and their families. Care planning is both creative and child-centered, capturing the perspectives of children and their families. Evidence shows that workers support families during legal proceedings to try to keep them together, and audits highlight excellent support and direct interventions. Additionally, robust assistance is available for children with emotional or mental health needs through services like HEART (Health and Education Access to Resources) and CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services).

In December 2023, Children Services conducted a survey among children in care and care leavers, revealing high levels of satisfaction.

## Leaving Care

The service have a range of accommodation suitable for Care leavers to help them to prepare for their independence. In addition there are two specialised positions—the Engagement and Participation Officer and the Asylum and Immigration Lead—which have been established for Care Leavers. These efforts have significantly increased engagement opportunities and reflect Children Services' commitment to their well-being. Furthermore, there has been improved support for Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC), ensuring access to reputable legal representation.

The tailored Education, Employment, and Training (EET) programs continue to provide opportunities, with in-house emotional well-being and mental health support for Care Leavers over 18. Children Services actively developing diverse accommodation pathways, including long-term options for those reaching 21.

While the percentage of 19-21 care leavers in EET slightly decreased from the previous year (53.9% vs. 54.9%), there was also progress: fewer care leavers aged 17/18 were not in education, training, or employment (25, down from 32), and the same trend applied to care leavers aged 19-21 (82, down from 88).

This year, Children Services successfully organised three bespoke events: one for those Not in Education, Employment, or Training (NEET), another for UASC, and a Care Leavers week, further demonstrating Children Services' proactive approach to supporting young people in these critical areas.

The care leavers hub, which includes both physical and digital spaces, continues to evolve to meet the unique needs of care leavers. It hosts various activities and professionals, providing essential support for their journey toward independence, including access to health sessions and independent advocacy.

## Our annual spend

|   | Amount          |
|---|-----------------|
| Salaries  | £151,360        |
| Independent Scrutineer                                    | £21,600         |
| Multi-agency audits                                       | £8,000          |
| Reviews   | £9,000          |
| Training  | £14,550         |
| Additional (Safeguarding Ambassadors, formatting reports) | £3,000          |
| <b>Total costs</b>  | <b>£191,000</b> |

## Our contributions from partner agencies

| Contributions | Amount                                       |
|---------------|--|
| LA            | £130,000                                     |
| ICB           | £50,600                                      |
| MPS           | £5,000<br>(with secondment x2 days per week) |
| Probation     | £3,400                                       |
| NMUH          | £3,000                                       |
| BEHMHT        | £3,000                                       |
| Royal Free    | £3,000                                       |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>£198,000</b>                              |

The DfE awarded grant funding of £43,600 to all boroughs to support with the implementation of the new MASA arrangements for 2024-2025. The grant funding was used in 23/24 and evidence was provided to the DfE.

# Closing statement

**The Enfield Children's Safeguarding Partnership (ECSP) brings together the three statutory safeguarding partners (the Local Authority, the Police, and the NHS Integrated Care Board) to make sure arrangements are in place to help keep children and young people in Enfield safe.**

As you will have read, we have taken a proactive approach in supporting our practitioners to feel more equipped to manage some of the prominent safeguarding concerns in Enfield.

We worked together to publish the LCSPR on Emily and deliver a great learning event on how to support children and young people with their online safety, one of the key features that exacerbated the risk when we think about Emily's experience.

Our three strategic priorities of physical abuse, child on child abuse, and anti-racist practice continue to underpin the learning opportunities for practitioners in the year 2023-2024. We invested heavily into ensuring that our training opportunities reflected this by commissioning training on multi-agency safeguarding awareness, adultification, Challenging Disproportionality: Risk Assessing for young black children and Disrupting Exploitation, Working with Children with SEND.

We delivered an excellent practice week with over 400 practitioners attending, showing that there is an appetite and commitment to learning within Enfield.

We are proud of our Safeguarding Ambassadors who continue to provide valuable feedback to the partnership on what is working well and what needs to be developed further. We want to highlight that the voice of children and young people remains important for us as a partnership and we will continue to invest in the recruitment and retention of our Ambassadors.

We successfully recruited to the role of Independent Chair/Scrutineer and the support provided by Nicky Pace has been structured and effective. Nicky undertook scrutiny of our MASH which we welcomed, and we support the feedback and recommendations that were provided. Her feedback will be embedded into an action plan that will inform any improvements that will be made to the MASH.

The publishing of Working Together 2023 has required us to start to think about how we will embed the changes outlined into our partnership. We are happy to announce that we have decided to keep Nicky Pace on as an Independent Scrutineer.

In establishing our key priorities for the year, we have taken into account the evidence and findings from our multi-agency reviews and LSPCRs, as well as national themes and trends.

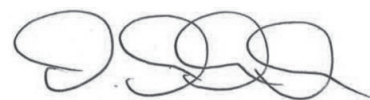
## Our key priorities for 2024- 2025

**Embedding the actions from the contextual safeguarding review.**

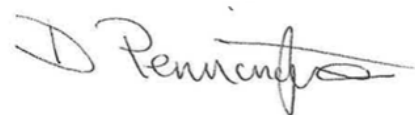
**Supporting partners to respond to working with men-fathers, and step-fathers within the family.**

**Embedding the actions provided by the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel and our LCSPR (due to be published in 24/25) on Elective Home Educations.**

We hope you find this report informative and if you require the report in any other format, please contact Safeguarding Enfield at [SafeguardingEnfield@enfield.gov.uk](mailto:SafeguardingEnfield@enfield.gov.uk)



**Tony Theodoulou**  
Executive Director – People  
Enfield Council



**David Pennington**  
Director of Safeguarding  
Chief Nurse's Directorate, NHS North Central London Integrated Care Board (NCL ICB)



**Stuart Smilie**  
Detective Superintendent  
North Area BCU – Head of Public Protection  
Metropolitan Police Service



**Website**

[www.safeguardingenfield.org](http://www.safeguardingenfield.org)



**Email**

[safeguardingenfield@enfield.gov.uk](mailto:safeguardingenfield@enfield.gov.uk)