

# Enfield Safeguarding Children Board



## Annual Report 2011 - 2012



**... because safeguarding children is everybody's responsibility**

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# Key Partners on the Enfield Safeguarding Children Board



**Welcome to the Enfield Safeguarding Children's Board's (ESCB) annual report.**

***I have been the Independent Chair since September 2010 and I am pleased to report on the business of the board. 2011-12 has brought fresh challenges to the ESCB, both internally with various changes of key personnel, and externally with lots of anticipated structural changes to some of our key partners. There have also been significant developments within the police service and health and we look forward to building and strengthening our partner relationships over the coming months.***

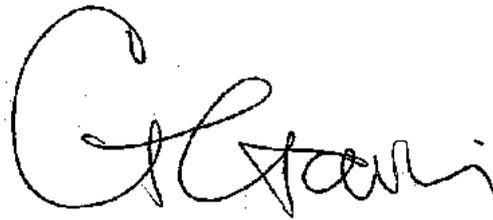
***The protection of children and focusing on preventing harm is an important duty placed on all agencies and making sure all works as well as possible is a sound principle underpinning the work of the Board. The disturbances during August 2011 seen right across London, though particularly here in Enfield required a considered response, which the ESCB has contributed to and lessons learned from that period are being actively pursued across the Borough.***

***Professor Eileen Munro's final report of the review of Child Protection services was published in May 2011 and an initial response from central government indicated that many of the recommendations are to be supported. A further period of consultation is taking place during early summer 2012 and the revised 'Working Together' guidance is due out later in the year. In the meantime, many authorities, Enfield included, are making plans and changes in order to position themselves favourably for a speedy implementation***

***process once dispensations and flexibilities are clarified.***

***I would like to thank all those who contribute to the ESCB and those staff right across the agencies who work so tirelessly and enthusiastically to develop and secure safeguarding services here in Enfield.***

**Geraldine Gavin. Independent Chair, Enfield Safeguarding Children Board.**



April 2012



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# 1. Summary

In the last twelve months the Enfield Safeguarding Children Board (ESCB) has continued to promote safeguarding across the borough. This report summarises the key activities and achievements during this period and highlights actions planned for to the next stage.

## Background

A significant challenge facing the ESCB and its multi agency partners is the level of poverty and deprivation in certain areas of the borough along with a relatively high child population and a mobile general population.

The overall population of Enfield (2012) is estimated as 297,100 (Source: Office for National Statistics, Subnational population projections) with the population set to increase by 9.5% from 2008 to 2021. The population of children and young people (aged 19 and under) in the borough is approximately 79,100. Enfield has a relatively large young population with the number of children and young people representing just over a quarter (26%) of the total population. The birth rate in Enfield is above the London average (General fertility rate 2010 Enfield 81.7, London 72.1) and the number of births is expected to rise by between 2 and 4% each year until 2018 (GLA standard fertility projection models). The most recent available data shows Enfield has the second highest percentage of low birth weight babies in London.

Information on population movement is difficult to obtain accurately or in a timely fashion. In the year 2009-10 there was an increase of approximately 3,000 children living in the borough. However there is a general perception that over recent years there has been a marked increase in movement into and within private rented housing in the south and east of the borough.

Provision for homeless households and asylum seekers and the buy-to-let investment market are thought to have driven this movement. Further increases have been seen following changes to housing benefit which came into effect on 1.4.2011. Enfield is an outlier for the rate of movement for 1-14 year olds, showing high mobility of young families – the 7th highest in England and 2nd highest in London after Brent (early findings of the Enfield council mobility study 2012)

## Key priorities for the Board and why these were identified

### The agenda for the ESCB and its sub-committees was set in response to 2 requirements:

- To comply with the statutory functions of the ESCB as laid out in regulations and the statutory guidance contained in “*Working Together to Safeguard Children*” (2010), The Children Act 1989 and The Children Act 2004.
- To co-ordinate and monitor the effectiveness of work undertaken to deliver the priorities identified in the “Keeping children and young people safe” outcome of the Enfield Children and Young Person’s Plan 2011 - 15.

In addition 5 key priorities were identified to be taken forward by the ESCB

1. Ensure the safety of children remains paramount through the proposed health changes and commissioning arrangements for children
2. Re-focus the agenda of the Board so that child protection issues are prioritised

3. Strengthen the links between the Adult and Children Safeguarding Boards
4. Achieve the co-location of workers from Children's Social Care, Public Protection (Police) Unit and Health on one site.
5. Assure the quality of front line practice and partners working with children

Additionally, there are strong links between the work of the ESCB and its subgroups and the priorities within the following key documents:

- "Enfield's Future" Enfield Strategic Partnership's Sustainable Community Strategy for 2007-2017
- "Enfield Child and Family Poverty Strategy" June 2011 which outlines the Council's vision to ensure that every Enfield child has the same opportunities and life chances.
- "Building Resilience – achieving better outcomes" which highlights the Schools and Children's Services plan to target resources, focus support and intervene early to prevent escalation of need.
- "Enfield Children's Trust Parenting Strategy 2012 -15" which lays out the plans locally for ongoing support to Enfield's parents and carers.



### The approach to delivering these outcomes taken by Enfield Safeguarding Children Board 2011-2012

The agenda for safeguarding children for 2011-2012 has continued to be a large and complex one. On 10<sup>th</sup> May 2011 the final report of the "Munro review of Child Protection – a Child-Centred System" was published. The government's initial response to this in July 2011 agreed with Professor Munro that the system had become too focused on compliance with rules and procedures and had lost its focus on the needs and experiences of children and young people. It is also agreed that her recommendations need to be considered in the round and in partnership with other services.

It called on local authorities to develop their safeguarding systems so that:

- professional expertise is valued;
- responsibility for the provision of early help is shared;
- social work expertise is developed and effective social work practice is supported and
- accountabilities are strengthened and learning is promoted.

The government has yet to publish a revised version of Working Together or to confirm exactly what aspects of the current safeguarding arrangements can be done differently and what performance data, if any, will be required for centralised reporting or recommended for local usage. A consultation exercise is due to be conducted from May to August 2012 with publication of the new Working Together document in September 2012. Some local authorities are already piloting new ways of working and many, Enfield included, are moving towards the use of a *Single Point of Entry (SPOE)* for children and their families into services and *Multi Agency Safeguarding Hubs (MASH)* for triaging and responding to child protection concerns and referrals.

Additionally Enfield was a pilot authority for the new Ofsted child protection inspection model in November 2011 which provided an excellent opportunity for external evaluation and challenge. With overall findings being encouraging, areas for improvement were identified and incorporated into the ESCB business plan as the Board has been charged with responsibility for oversight of this programme of work.

The challenge for Enfield Safeguarding Children Board has been to incorporate and adapt to this changing and uncertain national agenda on a multi agency basis whilst ensuring that local safeguarding arrangements are robust, fit for purpose and flexible enough to be responsive to borough-wide issues.

### **Delivering the outcomes.**

The sub-committees are the key mechanism through which the ESCB delivers on its outcomes. Each sub-committee has prescribed objectives set out in a Business Plan to ensure that the objectives can be tracked, monitored and evaluated. A six monthly review of progress was conducted in November 2011 with reports from each sub committee to the main ESCB.

### **Evidencing improved outcomes**

It remains a significant challenge to provide evidence of improved outcomes, as safeguarding is a complex agenda and there are very many variables which impact on ESCB's ability to safeguard children and not all of these can be anticipated, accounted for or measured. In Enfield, the ESCB'S approach has been to set a robust safeguarding structure in place, ensure that all inspection data from CQC, Ofsted, HMIC and HMIP, as well as local datasets, audits and "mock inspections" inform the agenda for improvement and help identify areas for targeted development to improve practice. In addition the ESCB has

been working towards establishing a variety of sources of baseline data from which to measure progress, achievements and improved outcomes.



Building on this base, work has now begun to implement a local model of Performance Management and Quality Assurance based on good practice Guidance, 'Improving Local Safeguarding Outcomes' LGG and London SCB.

The ESCB has developed a firm foundation for partnership working and there is evidence of strong and effective partnership arrangements. OFSTED inspectors following the pilot inspection in November 2011 confirmed this.

### **Key Areas of progress/ achievements made and evidence of improved outcomes**

**Priority Outcome 1: Ensure the safety of children remains paramount through the proposed health changes and commissioning arrangements for children**

There has been a steady stream of activity over the year to ensure an appropriate and safe transfer of responsibilities in relation to safeguarding. These have included the following:

- The nomination of Dr Tim Fenn as the designated safeguarding lead GP in the Clinical Commissioning Group.
- Regular meetings between the PCT designated nurse for safeguarding and Dr Fenn
- A meeting between the ESCB Chair and Dr Fenn
- Regular meetings between the Director of Children’s services and Dr Alpesh Patel, the Chair of the Shadow CCG
- All ESCB reports have been circulated to Dr Fenn and he is now a member of the ESCB and will start to attend board meetings.

Additionally, Carole Bruce Gordon, Designated Nurse NHS Enfield says: “ I am currently creating new relationships between the private health sector and the Enfield Safeguarding Board with a view to protecting children”.



### Priority Outcome 2: Re-focus the agenda of the Board so that child protection issues are prioritised

Activities to maintain a clear focus for the Board have included the following:

- Self assessment event by members of the ESCB in November 2011 against the Ofsted Good Practice Guidance standards for Safeguarding Boards
- Regular review of the information data set presented to the Board to ensure that the Board can be confident that children are properly safeguarded

Presentation to the Board of findings of specific audits, such as the results of the Children’s Commissioner’s enquiry into sexual exploitation and trafficking.



### Priority Outcome 3: Strengthen the links between the Adult and Children Safeguarding Boards

Closer working arrangements have been developed and strengthened over the last year. These include:

- The attendance of the ESCB Development Officer at the Enfield Safeguarding Adults Board (ESAB).
- Liaison between the ESCB chair and the recently appointed independent chair of the ESAB.
- Joint work in relation to Domestic Violence and Safeguarding week.

**Priority Outcome 4: Achieve the co-location of workers from Children’s Social Care, Public Protection (Police) Unit and Health on one site.**

In anticipation of the implementation of the Munro recommendations, work has been progressing to create a Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) in Enfield. A

MASH co-locates safeguarding agencies and their data into a secure assessment and referral unit for notifications of vulnerable children. By providing a fire walled facility, the aim is for each partner to exercise the tension between privacy and sharing information for safety. This will help identify unknown risk by building up a full picture on the child of concern and their family; local agencies have now signed up to the initiative as a key tool in building stronger partnership work to identify vulnerable children at an early stage.

Additionally our agencies have agreed to use the CAF (Common Assessment Framework) as our local interagency referral tool for professionals to assess and refer children who have additional needs through a Single Point of Entry (SPOE) which will be the local MASH. Local thresholds are being revised and re-issued to reflect these proposals. It is anticipated that the SPOE will be live from the beginning of July 2012.



**Priority Outcome 5: Assure the quality of front line practice and partners working with children**

A lot of thought has been given to the achievement of effective quality assurance in recognition of the need to refocus so that in addition to “doing things right” (i.e. following procedures) the system concentrates on doing the right thing (i.e. checking whether children and young people are being helped).” This has led to further development of the QA framework as outlined in the feedback from the QA sub committee.

Other methods which are being used to meet this outcome are as follows:

- Responding to the outcome of the pilot Ofsted inspection with a comprehensive action plan
- The appointment of a Consultation Officer within the Performance team
- Responding to feedback from the young people’s Shadow Safeguarding work and the Barnardo’s advocacy project
- Surveying front line staff regarding outcomes and impact on practice of multi agency training.

## 2. Governance and accountability arrangements

The ESCB has ensured effectiveness throughout the year in a number of ways:

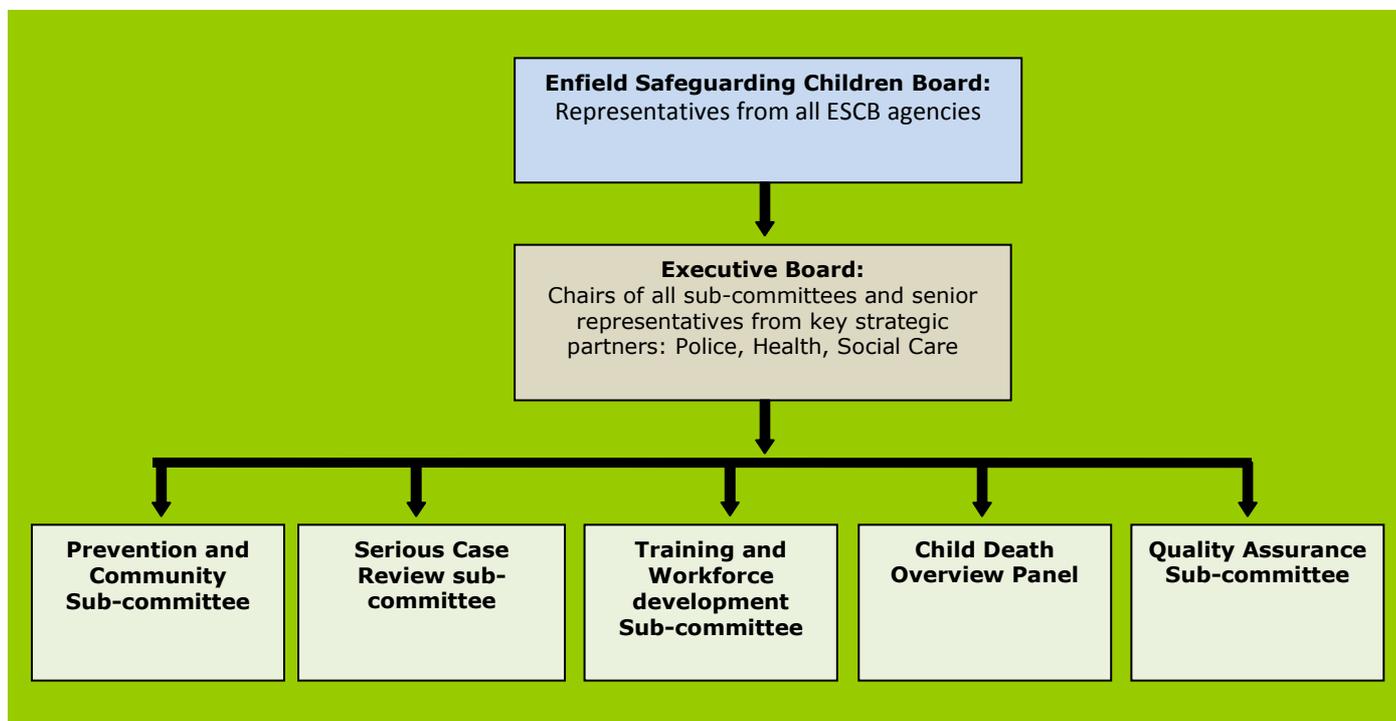
- Members of the board participated in the pilot inspection of child protection services by OFSTED in November 2011. The processes, procedures, protocols and activity as well as governance of the board were closely scrutinised. Partners fully participated in the inspection, which had a beneficial outcome for Children's Services in the borough.
- The Quality Assurance sub committee is able to more closely focus on statistics and national and local indicators to measure safeguarding performance. These are collected on a monthly basis. Particular trends can be identified e.g. attendance at Child Protection conferences by partners and if necessary an action agreed.
- A 'learning event' was held in July 2011 looking specifically at the findings from an Independent Management Review (IMR) completed during 2010-11 (KD). This focused on adults abusing substances and the impact on their childcare abilities and what aspects of the case could have been better delivered and shared between the partners involved. Specific specialised training was delivered by the Lucy Faithfull Foundation as an IMR (KD) concluded that overall awareness of sexual abuse issues needed updating across partnership members. The sub-committee has discussed the disturbances over

the summer period and reviewed the deaths of two teenagers since April.



## Role, function and structure of the Board and sub-committees

The ESCB structure is as follows:



### Membership and attendance (including plans for lay members)

There are 35 members who sit on the Board, which includes statutory partners, independent and voluntary agencies and designated leads, when necessary.

### Lay Members on the ESCB

Interviews took place in March 2011 for two Lay Members to join the board. There was an excellent response which resulted in the appointment of 2 lay members. Mr Rick Jewell, is still in post however regrettably the other person had to

resign due to work commitments. Plans are in progress to recruit a further lay member to share in this exciting development as we feel that having Lay Members opens a new dimension and potential challenge to the board about how it ensures children are effectively safeguarded in Enfield.

### Independent Chair

The Independent Chair, Geraldine Gavin, was appointed to the ESCB in September 2010. The Chair;

- Provides a strong and independent voice for the ESCB
- Ensures that effective safeguarding arrangements are robust and effective through an independent oversight of performance management and quality assurance

- Ensures that government policy and guidance is effectively interpreted and delivered in a way that best meets the needs of local children, keeping an overview of how this could be achieved in consultation with all partner agencies.
- The Acting Borough Commander undertook the role of Deputy Chair of the Board.

### Director of Children Services

The Director of Children’s Services (DCS) has continued to ensure that local authority services engage effectively with the ESCB and, as a member of both the ESCB and the Children’s Trust provides a vital link in ensuring that the relationship between the Children’s Trust Board and the ESCB is working effectively.

The DCS meets regularly with the Independent Chair and encourages the involvement of schools on the ESCB.

**We want our children to be safe from harm, have fair access to top quality educational opportunities and enjoy positive activities.** *Enfield Children’s and Young People’s Plan Vision Statement*

### Lead Member

The Lead Member for Children, Councillor Ayfer Orhan receives regular updates from the Director of Children’s Services on the work of the Board and in line with statutory guidance has been invited to the board as a ‘participant observer’.

**We want all children to have the best start in life and make healthy choices,**

**enabling them to achieve their potential and make a successful transition to adulthood.**

*Enfield Children’s and Young People’s Plan Vision Statement*

### Financial arrangements

The ESCB is financed through contributions from partner agencies. For 2011-12 the Board received a total of £ 68,150 in partner contributions. In addition to this amount, monies were received from non-attendance at training, independent organisations attending training and other contributions, which gave a grand total of £104,862

At end of year there was a total expenditure of £78,511. The majority of costs were accrued from training and commissioning serious case reviews.

**Fig 2. Breakdown**

	<b>Year Total</b>
Training and Workforce Development	£ 17,749
Child Deaths	£ 185
Prevention, Community and Communications	£ 11,550
Serious Case Review	£ 22,809
Board Meetings	£ 26,218
<b>Overall Total</b>	<b>£ 78,511</b>



## **Allegations - Maria Anastasi**

The total number of allegations referred to the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) for period 1st April 2011 and 31st March 2012 was 57, an increase from last year's figure of 45. The number of allegations in 2009-10 was 65.

This is a significant reduction from 2009-2010 when the total number of allegations was 65.

The referrals were considered in line with the London Child Protection Procedures chapter 15 and the local Enfield protocol, and triggered by:

Behaviour which had harmed or may have harmed a child or young person  
Possible criminal offence against or related to a child  
Behaviour towards a child or young person in way which indicated professionals or volunteers were unsuitable to work with children or young people.

AGENCY	Physical	Emotional	Sexual	Neglect	Inappropriate Behaviour/ conduct	Other	Total
Primary Schools	10					1	11
Secondary Schools	7		2		1	1	11
Health			2		1	2	5
Nurseries/Playgroups (independent)	1						1
Foster Carers (LB Enfield)	3	1	1			1	6
Foster Carers (agency)	4		2			2	8
Foster Carers(other LA)	2		1				3
Faith Groups	2						2
Children Services						1	1
Voluntary sector						2	2
Children's Centres			1			1	2
Residential/semi independent units	2		1				3
Others	1					1	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>57</b>

NB

The category "other", under the primary abuse type refers to cases where there have been concerns of a child protection nature, in professionals' personal lives and consideration needed to be given to possible risks to children and young people they were involved with in a professional capacity (Pan London procedures, 15.3.19-15.3.22)

Agency	Substantiated	Unsubstantiated	Unfounded
Primary Schools	2	9	
Secondary Schools	5	5	1
Health	2	2	1
Nurseries/Playgroups (independent)	1		
Foster Carers (LB Enfield)	3	3	
Foster Carers (agency)	3	5	
Foster Carers(other LA)		3	
Faith Groups	2		
Children Services		1	
Voluntary sector	1	1	
Children's Centres		1	1
Residential/semi independent units	1	1	1
Others	1	1	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>4</b>

### **“Unfounded”**

No evidence or proper basis which supports the allegation being made or there is evidence to prove that the allegation is untrue.

### **“Unsubstantiated”**

Insufficient identifiable evidence to prove or disprove an allegation. The term does not imply guilt or innocence.

### **“Malicious”**

This implies that an allegation has been made with a deliberate intent to deceive or cause harm to the person subject to the allegation. For an allegation to be classified as malicious it will be necessary to have evidence to prove the intention to cause harm. Care should be taken in dealing with such allegations as some facts may not be wholly untrue; some parts may have been fabricated or exaggerated but elements may be based on truth.

The ESCB protocol on managing allegations is being currently updated to ensure it is consistent with new national guidance. This will be presented to the Quality Assurance subcommittee and Board.

A workshop took place on 23rd April on managing allegations. This was well attended and there was good representation from several agencies. Further workshops will be organised to ensure agencies are familiar with the new protocol.

## **Licensing applications Jan Ashby-Keay**

Under the Licensing Act 2003 Trading Standards and/or the Police consider the following conditions and these may be attached to a premises licence in order to support the four licensing objectives.

### **Licensing Objectives**

The Council, in carrying out its licensing functions under the Act, will promote the Licensing Objectives, which are:

- the prevention of crime and disorder
- public safety
- the prevention of public nuisance
- the protection of children from harm

Trading Standards visit the premises on behalf of the Police Fire Service Environmental Health Service and the Safeguarding Children Board and will seek to apply appropriate conditions to fulfil the above Objectives. The conditions are presented and agreement sought at the hearing of the Licensing Committee.

In the period 01 April 2011 to 31 March 2012 the Enfield Safeguarding Board received notice of 92 licence applications which is 32 less than last year.

The premises included:

- 15 Restaurants
- 12 Supermarkets
- 11 Public Houses
- 11 Convenience Stores
- 6 Petrol Stations
- 3 Off Licences

The rest were various venues such as a Conference Centre, Snooker Club, Social Clubs and Takeaways etc. There were 14 applications from Libraries which were not alcohol related but requesting licences to show films, and dance and music events. There was 1 application where children under 18 were not admitted therefore no conditions necessary. There were 16 licences reviewed and further conditions applied.

- 1 was reviewed after under age test purchasing of alcohol, further conditions were applied.

The other 15 included:

- Customs and Excise investigations
- Noise nuisance
- Changes in opening hours

There were 11 applications for Gambling Licences. Children under

the age of 18 years are not permitted on the premises.



## Community Safety Unit Shan Kilby

A community safety public consultation exercise in early 2012 resulted in over 14,000 responses which is significantly more than other local consultations and has allowed us to prioritise those areas that are important to our local communities.

The Enfield Gangs Action Group started during 2011/12 and to be continued into 2012/13 operates in partnership with its equivalent in Haringey. It continues to coordinate activity to reduce the risks from gang activity and ensure that young people get the support they need if they are victims of crime. Innovative work in this area has included Enfield becoming the first area in England and Wales to introduce a Gang Call-

In process. This along with other work, has meant that we have been shortlisted for a London Problem Solving award for our work around gangs and serious youth violence. We were also the first area nationally to receive a peer review on our work to tackle gangs and serious youth violence. This Home Office led peer review recognised the best practice work that is going on in Enfield and has also provided recommendations on how we can take this work forward. One of our key priorities for the SSCB in 2012-13 will be to introduce a gangs strategy to co-ordinate this work.

Tackling violence against women and girls (VAWG) is also a priority area, with a number of initiatives implemented in 2011-12 and more planned for 2012-13. The Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVA) scheme has been re-commissioned by the partnership and will support a restructured partnership service including key elements such as the multi agency risk assessment conferences (MARAC).

Strong links have been formed with substance misuse services and Enfield is now one of only two London Boroughs to pilot a "Young Women's Initiative", in which research will be undertaken and people accessing drugs and alcohol services will be asked routinely whether they have concerns about domestic violence.

Through links with schools we promote "healthy" non-violent relationships supported by the Youth Engagement Panel as ambassadors of the Domestic Violence Partnership. We aim to develop an accreditation for participating schools. Additionally we have trained a number of practitioners across the

multi agency partnership to facilitate a Safe Choices group work with young women and girls who are at risk of domestic and/or sexual violence and gang related issues. The first group work programme was extremely successful and will continue roll out in 2012/13. Enfield is supporting a North London Rape Crisis Centre for victims of sexual offences.

The Domestic Violence Strategic Group (DVSG) is developing a performance management framework for 2012-13 to co-ordinate and manage responses to Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG), including those above. This will also link in with the Safeguarding Children's Board priority around Domestic Violence.

## **PRIVATE FOSTERING**

### **Janet Black-Heaven**

There has been a 16% increase in the number of new notifications on the previous year. There has also been an increase in the number of arrangements that have ended in this reporting year, which has resulted in there being fewer privately fostered children arrangements at the end of the year.

Whilst the numbers of current arrangements are lower than the previous year there continues to be significant number of notifications ( averaging nearly two per month) and assessment activity taking place, although this may be levelling out.

The sources of notification continue to confirm Ofsted's findings that most private fostering notifications are received from professionals as opposed to notifications from the community.

Whilst European children make up the largest cohort there is no real significant difference between those from Europe and those from Africa and the UK. Place of birth however does not denote the ethnicity of the child as there are 2 children who were born in the UK who are actually of Caribbean parents. The majority of children who are privately fostered are older teenagers. Most of these children are privately fostered as a result in the breakdown of their relationship with their parent and/or carer. There is one child whose parent died amongst the cohort.

## **Safeguarding and Promoting Welfare**

(90%) of the 21 new notifications achieved the statutory timescale for initial visits within 7 working days from receipt of notification.

There have been no de-registrations of any of the private foster carers.

A new process has been put in place earlier this year that makes acquiring CRB (Criminal Records Bureau) checks easier and speedier. CRBs can now be completed on-line in the social work office once the carer presents with the relevant documentation and it is anticipated that this problem will lessen over the course of the next year.

## **Professional and Public awareness**

The Community Handbook has been revised and re-launched and private fostering remains a feature within this. Representatives from Children's Social Care continue to attend the British Adoption and Fostering private fostering special interest group and so are linked with other Local Authorities in responding to

private fostering issues and sharing ideas on the subject matter.

Notifications of private fostering arrangements have increased. However as last year, the evidence would suggest that this has less to do with increased professional and public awareness and more to do with the knowledge of a limited number of partner agencies. The numbers of children who are privately fostered at the end of the year still remain low and although within the London average, it is probable that there are a number of children who are privately fostered, living within the borough, who remain hidden from our view.

Work will continue in relation to raising the awareness of private fostering with partner agencies as well as within the local community. There are plans to work with the Parent Engagement Panel and Parent Champions to engage with parents in the community to inform them about private fostering and the Local Authority's statutory responsibilities.

## **Quality Assurance Sub Committee**

### **Daniel Crampton**

I took over the chairing of the Quality Assurance sub group when I arrived at Enfield earlier this year. Some of the tasks that were awaiting completion have been completed during the last quarter of last year. The Section 11 audits are completed and have been analysed by myself and a lay member and plans are afoot to formalise the process in a more "user-friendly" style for the next set of section 11s and to get a more productive feedback from other organisations within the borough. The Allegations Protocol is being

updated by the Deputy Head of Service in the light of new national guidance and will be circulated to the sub group members for final ratification.

- The action plan that came out of the Ofsted pilot inspection has been completed and the tasks within it are now being undertaken.
- The task group will consult at an arranged meeting to finalise the document.
- The task for the coming year will be the collation of a complete data set to span Safeguarding Children throughout the borough and the services within in. This work is already in process wherein the chair is working closely with the Performance Team and putting together a schedule for each service to report its activity in regard to Safeguarding and for this to be monitored and analysed, by the Quality Assurance sub group, to be reported back to the board. All partner agencies have signed up to this approach and assistance will be given from the Performance Team to help with the collation of the quantitative data to provide a qualitative report to the board, six-monthly. 2012 to 2013 will produce an evaluation.

The other main agreed objective of the Quality Assurance Group in the coming year is to set up a series of audits across the agencies and to monitor and challenge Board members activity.

- A draft Audit Framework is already being looked at and

modified for approval by the Operational Management Group and is intended to be rolled out first throughout the Schools and Children's Services within Enfield.

- The Quality Assurance Group has agreed that a series of multi-agency peer audits either themed or of individual cases will be carried out by members of the Quality Assurance Group and their staff who have been involved in particular cases or are involved in Safeguarding. It is intended to roll this out from the second quarter of 2012-13.
- A series of evaluation and audit tools are being put out across the service from CQSAS, reviewing officers, evaluating cases and meeting to discuss their findings on a quarterly basis to report back to the Operational Management Group within the Safeguarding service and also to the board on a six monthly basis. Individual and themed audits will continue to be produced by this service but monitored and analysed in a more systematic way.

### **Working Party on child sexual exploitation and trafficking**

The ESCB commissioned a piece of work in 2011 which will be continued into 2012 focussing on children at risk from trafficking and sexual exploitation. The group has already agreed terms of reference and the instigation of the use of the London Safeguarding Board's Toolkit. It has also now been agreed by the working party to investigate running this project as a

cross-borough piece of work on this subject, with Barnet and Haringey, as this should assist us in data monitoring and shared opportunities for development and learning, which by working across Borough boundaries should provide us with a pro-active tri-borough multi-agency understanding of the problem and a conjoint response to it. We will also look at information regarding young runaways and possibly spread the work to gangs as well, as they are similar areas of operation for all of these services.

We will expect to update the board with progress reports and provide reports there-after on a six monthly basis if agreed as appropriate

### **Participation**

A key measure of the effectiveness of the safeguarding service is provided through the feedback from children and young people who are directly affected. This is monitored with information from several sources including the feedback from independent chairs of case conferences but also from the advocacy service commissioned from Barnardo's as detailed below.

Enfield Children's Rights Service facilitates a variety of participation activities, in partnership with Enfield Children's Services and other agencies. The purpose of these activities is to promote children's rights, including giving young people opportunities to develop new skills and awareness, promoting positive social networks, and enabling young people to express their views within a range of settings.

Advocacy is provided to individual children and young people, with the aim of helping them express their concerns and wishes, and enabling

them to gain appropriate support from Children's Services or other agencies. We provide young people with relevant information on their rights enabling them to make informed choices and have greater involvement in decisions which affect them. The advocate will support the young person to speak up for themselves and will speak up for the young person.

During 2011 -12 over 50 children and young people have been supported by this service in relation to the child protection process with a variety of issues which have included: not being listened to or heard, support in meetings, help in speaking to other professionals, attendance at professional meetings, contact, education and funding and placement and accommodation.

This valuable work is fully supported by the ESCB with regular monitoring reports being provided to the safeguarding service. Additionally there is an ambitious plan to gain the views of young people and parents involved in statutory processes to more fully involve them in the design and performance of our work.

## **2011 - 2012 Audits**

### **Safeguarding Division case audit**

As much routine management case auditing was undertaken in preparation for the pilot Ofsted inspection in November 2011, there were few specific themed audits this year. There was however an audit by senior operational managers within the Safeguarding Division in March 2012 which confirmed that there is much solid good social work practice and evidence of multi agency working. A number of

recommendations were made as follows:

- The format of the audit form is to be revised to enable more analytical judgements to be included (already in process)
- A themed audit around supervision is undertaken.
- A themed audit around views of the child should be undertaken—this should define what “good” would look like and then specifically audit a number of cases against that range of agreed standards.
- An urgent review of the reasons for delays in proceeding to court/care proceedings.
- A training programme is developed and undertaken for social workers focusing on taking account of ethnicity and diversity, addressing children's needs who have a disability and recording the views of the child/family

## **Section 11 Audit**

In keeping with the requirements of Section 11 of the 2004 Children Act, 17 local partner agencies conducted self assessments of their safeguarding arrangements against the agreed national standards in January 2012. All agencies completing the Section 11 self assessment indicated that they either met or exceeded all the standards. Analysis across all the completed forms indicated variability in completing the assessments. It has therefore been suggested there is further standardisation of response to enable more robust analysis of the evidence in future. In addition, there were a number of agencies that indicated no areas for improvement through the process of their self-

assessment. The following actions are proposed for 2012 /2014:

- Agreeing common areas for improvement that could be developed collaboratively
- A formal method of reporting Section 11 findings in a multi-agency arena.
- Agreeing a process for 'challenging' the evidence provided in order to provide assurance to the Board
- Ensuring the multi agency training aligns with the areas for improvement identified by agencies
- Developing a co-operative mechanism to feed the information gathered into the Business plan.
- A clear Policy on Criminal Records Checking for all staff using Client database

## **Training and Workforce Development Sub Committee**

### **Lynn Mattai**

The ESCB has continued to provide multi-agency training to all partners and services working with children and families in Enfield. The range of courses took into consideration changes in legislation and findings from local and national reviews. The total number of participants attending training was 367.

In addition to multi agency training, the Education lead for safeguarding has continued to provide whole school training, designated child protection training, managing children displaying sexualised behaviour training as well as safer recruitment training to schools. In total training 1423 educational personnel. The administration of

safer recruitment training for schools has now been taken over by the Schools Personnel Service and is still jointly delivered by Human Resources and Safeguarding. The fact that there is at least 1 senior staff member trained in Safer Recruitment in every school is testament to the high level of commitment within the borough to keeping children safe in our schools. The Board now need to ensure that safeguarding vulnerable children and adults is an integral part all agencies Recruitment and selection procedures.

The City Learning Centre also offers specialist training in relation to on line safety for all Enfield schools. This year support has been provided to: Enfield County, George Spicer, Worcester and Key Meadows on all aspects of the eSafety Strategy.

The ESCB continued to be part of the "safeguarding children in relation to culture and faith" pilot funded by the London Councils, working alongside AFRUCA (Africans Unite Against Child Abuse), to provide specialist training to practitioners. This work progressed to include faith and community leaders as well as parents.

In 2011/12 the multi-agency training programme was increased to include a further 6 courses:

- Private Fostering
- Emotional Harm and Neglect
- Understanding the impact of Sexual Abuse upon Children
- "2 risky"
- Working with families affected by substance and alcohol misuse.

## Training attendees

These are the attendance figures for each agency. No training took place April and August. Training is delivered over a 9 month period and agencies which have not participated well have been contacted with a view to securing increased attendance.

Figure 5: Agencies attending training

Education	86
Further Education	8
CAMHS	25
Social Care	57
Youth Offending Service	6
Health	53
Mental Health	10
Connexions	4
Ind/Vol	57
Other LBE	35
Probation	1
Police	5
Out of Borough	1
Foster Carer	1
	367

## Learning Event

A learning event was held in July 2011. Its aim was to share learning from a recent management review. It involved multi-agency participation both as presenters and attendees. Total attendance for both sessions was over 80 representatives.

## Areas for improvement

All training currently takes place at the Civic Centre. The feedback from many agencies cites that the location is central however, parking poses difficulties. This can result in late arrivals or early leavers on courses. Further work needs to be done on identifying appropriate venues.

## Child Death Overview Panel Cath Fenton

The Panel reviews information from all the professionals who knew the child. In Enfield, each child's death is reviewed only after all legal processes, such as Serious Case Reviews, inquest or criminal trials, are completed. The practice has continued that before the Panel that is due to discuss their child, a letter is sent to the parents from the Chair of the Panel, informing them about the meeting and inviting them to make contact with the Children's Reviewing Officer, should they have any questions or information which they may want the Panel to know.

Nationally infant mortality rates have been gradually falling in England and London since 2000. The rate in Enfield peaked between 2003 and 2007, then fell, latest statistics show a small increase (in line with the London trend); in Enfield it is still an area of significant concern.

### Child deaths - London statistics

According to statistics available from the DfE for 2010, Enfield had the 3rd highest number of child deaths in London (44).

The five London boroughs with the highest figures are:

Newham 48  
Lambeth 48

Enfield 44  
Ealing 43  
City of London & Hackney 42

### **Child deaths - national statistics**

In England - by area Enfield is placed 26/150.

Overview of work of the Child Death Overview Panel for the period April 2011-March 2012

The number of child deaths between 1/04/11 and 31/03/12 was 30. The Child Death Overview Panel met in April, June and September, December and March.

The issue of neonatal deaths has been highlighted as this makes up the majority of infant deaths. Infant mortality has been reported on to the Child Scrutiny panel and forms a priority area for Public Health and the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA). Public health has focussed on raising awareness of safer sleeping and early access to maternity services.

For 2012/13 a review of the CDOP's roles, responsibilities and protocols is planned.

### **Organisation and resourcing**

The Panel meetings continue to be organised and minuted by the Panel Coordinators. Cath Fenton, Consultant in Public Health is the Chair and the Deputy Chair continues to be Margaret Satterthwaite, Modern Matron for Vulnerable Women and Safeguarding, at North Middlesex Hospital.

The Panel continues to have excellent attendance from a full range of professionals, including Health and the Police – Borough and CAIT, Midwifery and General Nursing Services from the two Acute Trusts in the Borough, Public Health, Children's Social Care, Named GP and the London Ambulance Service.

### **Rapid Response**

Rapid response meetings are led by the Designated Paediatricians and organised and minuted by the Child Death Panel Coordinators. During the first six months of this year 5 meetings were held. The rapid response meetings are multi-agency and include any professional who has had contact or involvement with the child prior to, and at the point of, their death. The meetings also act as an outlet to enable professionals to talk about the child. Minutes of the meetings are distributed to all attendees and to the Coroner.

### **Serious Case Review Sub Committee Geraldine Gavin**

The sub-committee has met six times during 2011-12 and there have been two extraordinary meetings to discuss whether individual cases have met the SCR threshold. Two Independent Management Reviews (IMRs) are near completion and consideration is being given to Learning Events taking place over the next six months. Action plans from previous SCRs and IMRs have been reviewed to make sure drift is prevented and required actions are being followed through. There have been no new SCRs during 2011-12. The sub-committee discussed the disturbances over the summer period and reviewed the deaths of two teenagers since April. Acting Borough Commander Simon Lawrence has been the vice-chair, which has been beneficial, and discussions are underway about extending the membership to the local Crown Prosecution Service (CPS). All

partner agencies take an active role in the SCR sub-committee and attendance is good.

Although a 'new' model of SCRs has been suggested, (highlighted in the Munro Report) no firm decisions have yet been made. National themes from Ofsted's reviews mirror local findings e.g. five key issues ran through many of the cases considered: the child was not seen frequently enough by the professionals involved, or was not asked about their views and feeling, agencies did not listen to adults who tried to speak on behalf of the child and who had important information to contribute, professionals were prevented from seeing and listening to children by parents and carers, practitioners focused too much on the needs of parents, especially vulnerable parents, and overlooked the implications for the child, agencies did not interpret their findings well enough to protect the child. It is important that ESCB stays up to date with these findings and spreads this learning across all the partnerships. Tim Loughton (Minister for Children) has recently written a reminder to all Boards that SCRs instigated post June 2010 should be published and summaries made available. He is also actively involved in seeking confirmation that all Safeguarding Boards learn from each other when SCRs/IMRs are completed.

## **Prevention Sub Committee**

**Claire Whetstone**

### **Development of a Communications Strategy**

Improved links have been forged between the work of the Children's

Trust and that of the Prevention Sub Group. The chair of the prevention sub group has been attending the communications strategy group chaired by Panay Richards of the Children's Trust team and Panay has been attending the Prevention Sub Group. The prevention sub group have produced a draft communications strategy that dovetails with the Children's Trust communications strategy. This is now available for consultation.

### **Young People Shadow Work**

The prevention sub group has changed the way in which it is working with young people this year and has convened a group to plan, prepare and run the Safeguarding conference later in 2012. We are currently in the early stages of discussion on the format, but have consulted with young people on their safeguarding priorities in the first instance and run a workshop to begin to look at a possible format in more detail.

### **Outreach**

The group carried out its outreach programme throughout the summer, using community events to raise the profile of safeguarding and communicate with local parents and carers. The largest events in which we took part were the community fun day at Edmonton Mosque, the community day at Palmers Green Mosque and the Town Show. However in addition to these events were a number of local events in parks and community centres as well as major events such as Play Day and the Town Show.

### **Third Sector Protocol**

Work on a third sector strategy has begun with meetings with colleagues in Barnet, with a view to developing

a protocol that may be used across boroughs if felt to be beneficial.

### **Development of Community Help Point Scheme**

Adult services have now also decided to develop the scheme to work with vulnerable adults and will be injecting funding into the project for the development of new publicity and awareness campaigns. The re-launch of the project is now scheduled for the autumn of 2012 and a member of the adult safeguarding team has joined the CHiPS steering group to facilitate this.

### **Re-Drafting of the Community Handbook**

The PCC began work on the development of the Community Handbook in early 2012. The number of subjects covered was increased and a means of having access to the handbook on line was also investigated. The new handbook is planned for distribution in June 2012.

### 3. Progress on Priority Policy Areas

This year the ESCB has progressed work in the following areas in response to national expectations and local need. These include;

- Update of the Mental Health Protocol to include partners from Barnet and Haringey Children's and Health Services
- Establishment of a Hidden Harm service in conjunction with Compass to support children and families where substance misuse is an issue
- Missing children
- The Runaway Project at St Christopher's.
- Reducing duplication and streamlining recording processes for front line social workers
- Work on a protocol for Concealed and Undisclosed Pregnancies
- The production of a Communication Strategy for the ESCB
- The promotion and roll out of Parenting Engagement Panels across Enfield securing the first London Safeguarding award from London Councils for emerging practice' category for "Safeguarding Across Cultural Divides".
- A parenting summit following the disturbances in August 2011.
- A training event to support schools in the aftermath of fatal incidents of youth violence planned by Police, for all school leadership teams in secondary schools, primary head teachers, members of the ESCB and Safer Schools officers.
- Ongoing safeguarding work with the Youth Engagement Panels incorporating workshops dealing with weapons and personal safety.
- Liaison with other London Boroughs in respect of Olympics 2012 to ensure that appropriate responses will be available to children and young people during the games.

## 4. What It's like to be a lay member – Rick Jewel

When I first saw the advertisement for this role in the local paper, I thought this was something I could get involved in. I have already been a volunteer in the Youth Offending Team for nearly 10 years and as a parent and grandparent I have real concerns about the safety and wellbeing of young people and children in our community.

It had been a few years since I sat an interview and nowadays you have to give a presentation which was a bit daunting, but I put down on paper what my concerns were regarding the issues that I feel affect young people in regards to their safety. Fortunately enough, I covered all the salient points that the board were looking for.

The time involved in holding this role has not been too demanding but there is a fair amount of training that has to be undertaken, understandably it is an important role to represent the community and to put the communities' views at board meetings.

Why did I want to get involved? I recognised that over the last few years public confidence in agencies that provide services for young people and children in society had received some bad press and come under scrutiny and media attention. Victoria Climbié and Baby P being a couple of the most high profile cases in question that brought about that change. I felt that I could, in some

way, try and rebuild that link between the professionals and the

community and Enfield has given me the chance to do that.

Lay Board members are a relatively new concept on safeguarding boards and it is important that local people get involved. We add an outside perspective on things and our concerns are listened to and acted upon where necessary.

I have been involved in auditing of the agencies and I have also been involved in the Business Plan for the borough. I attend board meetings every 3 months and I am able to put myself forward for any training that comes along in order to carry out my role.

I have found that my 18 months on the board has been an eye opener for me and I would urge people with a passion for their community to get involved, not only in this type of role but the many opportunities to volunteer within the borough and make a difference.

## 5. Business priorities for 2012-2014

In view of the scale of change for the safeguarding agenda and the postponement of the publication of the revised Working Together in response to the Munro review, the ESCB has decided to work to a two year business plan with reviews at six monthly intervals to allow sufficient time to implement the new requirements. The Board therefore plans to focus on the following priorities during this period:

### **Core business (Child Protection)**

- Although our arrangements for multi agency protection of children and young people are robust and this has been confirmed by repeated inspection judgements and data analysis, there are no grounds for complacency. There is a need for ongoing evaluation and continuous improvement as well as ensuring capacity to respond to emerging issues and new developments.

### **Early Help and Safeguarding**

- In keeping with the Munro review and the requirement to achieve greater value for money and to streamline access to services, Enfield has created the Building Resilience Programme. This is a strategy for early identification and intervention to target families, children and young people who are most in need. It will involve restructuring, redirection and integration of services and is therefore of critical importance to the safeguarding agenda. The ESCB will therefore play a significant part in this

process during the lifetime of this plan.

### **Sexual exploitation and child trafficking**

- There is increasing evidence of organised criminal activity in relation to the sexual exploitation of children and young people in the UK; much, although not all, is perpetrated through the illegal trade of child trafficking. This is a covert activity which is difficult to identify, track and prosecute. Enfield, as is the case with many other urban areas, is likely to have a number of children and young people affected. Enfield SCB is determined to address this issue robustly and has established a special sub group to coordinate the work.

### **Domestic violence**

- Lessons from serious case reviews and our own local data analysis indicate that domestic violence remains a significant risk factor for children referred to social care, those coming to the attention of the police service and those on child protection plans and in care. For this reason the ESCB wants to increase the focus on this area, raise awareness of the issue and work harder to prevent harm to children living in situations affected by domestic violence.

### **Coordination with Adults Services**

- Effective safeguarding services are family based and involve parents, carers and extended family members along with other significant others in the community. In order to achieve this, joint working protocols need to be in place across health, local authority and the voluntary sectors to be able to coordinate activities where children are deemed to be in need. With an ever-changing landscape of provision for adults particularly in relation to the health service, it is imperative that the ESCB maintains a close focus on working arrangements.

### **Conclusion**

This concludes the ESCB annual report for 2011 -12. The work of the Board will continue and with the Olympics taking place in London in 2012 another significant year lies ahead.

## Appendix 1: References

### Government Documents

***The Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act***

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/apprenticeshipsskillschildrenandlearningact/>

***Children Act 1989***, HMSO, London, 1989

[www.hmso.gov.uk/acts/acts1989/Ukpga\\_19890041\\_en\\_1.htm](http://www.hmso.gov.uk/acts/acts1989/Ukpga_19890041_en_1.htm) and

***Children Act 2004*** HMSO, London, 2004

[www.hmso.gov.uk/acts/acts2004/20040031.htm](http://www.hmso.gov.uk/acts/acts2004/20040031.htm)

***Every Child Matters: Change for Children***, HM Government, 2004

<http://publications.everychildmatters.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DfES%2F1081%2F2004&>

***London Child Protection Procedures 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, 2010*** London Safeguarding Children Board

[http://www.londonscb.gov.uk/files/2010/procedures/london\\_cp\\_procedures\\_v.3\\_\\_15.02.10.pdf](http://www.londonscb.gov.uk/files/2010/procedures/london_cp_procedures_v.3__15.02.10.pdf)

***The Protection of Children in England: A Progress Report***, The Lord Laming, March 2009

<http://publications.everychildmatters.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=HC+330>

***Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006***

[http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2006/pdf/ukpga\\_20060047\\_en.pdf](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2006/pdf/ukpga_20060047_en.pdf)

***What to Do If You're Worried a Child Is Being Abused***

[www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/resourcesand-practice/IG00182/](http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/resourcesand-practice/IG00182/)

***Working Together to Safeguard Children: a guide to interagency working to safeguard and***

***promote the welfare of children***, HM Government, 2010

[www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/resourcesand-practice/IG00060/](http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/resourcesand-practice/IG00060/)

### Local Documents

***Enfield's Future"*** Enfield Strategic Partnership's Sustainable Community Strategy for 2007-2017

[http://www.enfield.gov.uk/download/1013/enfields\\_future](http://www.enfield.gov.uk/download/1013/enfields_future)

***Enfield Children and Young people's plan 2011 -15***

[http://www.enfield.gov.uk/info/200015/performance\\_plans\\_and\\_partnership/1606/enfields\\_children\\_and\\_young\\_peoples\\_plan\\_2011-2015](http://www.enfield.gov.uk/info/200015/performance_plans_and_partnership/1606/enfields_children_and_young_peoples_plan_2011-2015)

***Enfield Child and Family Poverty Strategy June 2011***

[http://www.enfield.gov.uk/info/100000265/archive\\_consultations/1698/child\\_and\\_family\\_poverty\\_strategy\\_the\\_drive\\_towards\\_prosperity](http://www.enfield.gov.uk/info/100000265/archive_consultations/1698/child_and_family_poverty_strategy_the_drive_towards_prosperity)

## Appendix 2: Glossary

ASCL	Apprenticeship, Skills, Children and Learning Act
CDOP	Child Death Overview Panel
CQC	Care Quality Commission
DCS	Director of Children Services
ESCB	Enfield Safeguarding Children Board
HMIC	Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary
CAIT	Child Abuse Investigation Team
IMR	Individual Management Review
ISA	Independent Safeguarding Authority
NSDU	National Safeguarding Delivery Unit
Ofsted	Office for Standards in Education
CSC	Children's Social Care
PCC	Prevention, Community and Communications Sub-Committee
QA	Quality Assurance
QAP	Quality Assurance and Performance
SCR	Serious Case Review
PCT	Primary Care Trust
CCG	Clinical Commissioning Group
SAB	Safeguarding Adults Board
MASH	Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub
SPOE	Single Point of Entry

## Appendix 3: ESCB Attendance Figures

	17/05/2011	17/09/2011	29/11/2011	31/01/2012	27/03/2012
Independent Chair	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Health</b>					
BCFH	2	2	2	1	1
NMUH	1	1	1	1	1
ECS/NHS Enfield	3	2	3	3	2
BEHMHT				1	1
<b>Police</b>					
Borough Police	1	3	1	2	1
Police CAIT	2	2	1	1	1
Police, Sapphire Unit				1	1
<b>CAFCASS</b>				1	
<b>CAMHS</b>	1	1			
<b>Education</b>	2	4	5		1
<b>Social Care</b>	1	2	2	2	1
Safeguarding & QA Service	3	2	1	3	3
Community Safety	1	1	1		
Housing				1	1
Schools & Childrens Services	2		2	2	
LBE, other		1			4
<b>Fire Service</b>		1	1	1	1
<b>Probation</b>	2	1	1	2	1
<b>Public Health</b>			1		1
<b>Voluntary</b>	1	1	2	1	1
<b>YOS</b>	1	1	1	1	
<b>Lay Person</b>		2	1	1	1
ESCB	3	2	2	2	2
	26	29	28	27	25

## Contacts

**For more information about the work of Enfield Safeguarding Children Board, please contact the ESCB Team:**

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