



## OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 20/09/2012

**Subject Heading:**

Multi-agency Safeguarding hub (MASH)

**CMT Lead:**

Sue Butterworth

**Report Author and contact details:**

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**Policy context:**

Children and Safeguarding

### SUMMARY

The London Safeguarding Children Board, the Metropolitan Police, London Directors of Children's Services (ALDCS) and the Greater London Authority agreed in 2011 to take forward a London wide project bringing together partner agencies to work more closely together on information sharing. Poor information sharing has been a feature of many inquiries into child death tragedies including Peter Connelly in Haringey .

The London MASH programme has drawn on experience in London and elsewhere. Devon is generally recognised as the first council to have a multi-agency safeguarding hub in place with co-located social workers, police and health professionals. The Devon MASH was established in 2010 and was cited as an example of good practice in the Munro Report on Safeguarding Children.

In London Haringey brought together police with social workers and health professionals to address the poor inter-agency working that was identified by Ofsted and the Peter Connelly serious case review. Hackney has also had a co-located multi-agency arrangement in place for some time.

In Havering, agencies have been working closely together to establish a MASH in Mercury House. Progress has been very good. Although, Havering was not in the original first wave of MASH programmes, the police are now in Mercury House and our health partners are recruiting to their post in the multi-agency team.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- To note progress in establishing a multi-agency safeguarding hub.

**REPORT DETAIL**

**IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

**Financial implications and risks:**

**Legal implications and risks:**

**Human Resources implications and risks:**

**Equalities implications and risks:**

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**